

BACK COVE TO QUAKER LANE

Theodore L. Sawyer

Rec'd from
Mr. Sawyer
November 2000

IN APPRECIATION

For my mother: A. Inez Randall Sawyer, (who raised my brother and me, from the ages of 11 and seven, respectively, after the death of my father) who loved history, and before she died in 1944, passed that love on to me. This booklet has come out of that love for history.

For my wife: Ida Alice Libby Sawyer, who, until her death in 1999, accompanied me on many of my trips to various towns while I gathered information. Her companionship was a constant encouragement to me through the years of research that made this booklet possible.

For my granddaughter: Kirsten Sawyer Gratton, who spent many hours typing and re-typing all the data I collected.

1930 Recollections

This is an attempt to give a little history of North Deering and East Deering and it seems appropriate to work our way back from the present day.

I grew up at the time when horses were still being used. The fields were all mowed and you could see a long way in various directions. I was also born to one of the old families and into a rather unique situation. My father still owned ten acres of the old premises, which probably totaled in the vicinity of 60 acres on the east side of the road. On our ten acres was the family burial ground. My father was 64 years old when I was born. He had been married in 1880 but his first wife died in 1902 and he remained a widower 12 years before marrying the lady who became my mother, A. Inez Randall. She was 39 when I was born and I was the second son. My third-grade teacher did not think I knew what I was talking about when I answered her questions regarding my father's name and his age. She insisted I must be talking about my grandfather, but apparently consulted another teacher who knew my background. My father, Eugene W. Sawyer, still tried to maintain the premises as they had always been. He kept one cow and some hens and he was a very good gardener. His occupation was solderer employed by Colonial Silver Co., putting together the parts of dishes and other silver items, i.e. handles, knobs, spouts, etc.

The few people who were still farmers and keeping horses as well as cows, needed the grass for their animals. My father could get Vaughan West to mow the fields, keeping most of the hay for his purposes, but leaving enough in our haymow for the one cow. Mr. West lived in the old house on the Lane, which had been in the Sawyer family. He also would plow the gardens for my father. There were several such people in the community and because horses were still being used they had left a ten foot gravel roadway on each side of Washington Avenue.

The trolley cars originally ran on the east side of the road, but I remember them as running down the center of the road. It was paved between the rails and for about ten feet on each side for automobile traffic. There were also some wagons used to deliver milk, ice, fish, fruit, etc., and in the winter time these people would use sleighs called pungs. We have come a long way since those days and it is very difficult for anyone to even cross Washington Avenue now because of the tremendous amount of traffic flowing in both directions. Our house at 1119 Washington Avenue still had gas lights and considering that my father installed them about 1900, he was not in any hurry to change to electric lights. In fact, there was an advantage during a big storm when most of the people lost their power, we still had our lights and also a gravity feed hot water heating system. When ironing with a gas iron, my mother set her dress on fire and my grandmother wrapped a blanket around her. After that my father had one electric circuit, actually one outlet, put into the house which took care of the electric iron and also a washing machine. He died of pernicious anemia in 1926, but in that last year had the house completely wired. We still had the gravity feed hot water heating system so a power outage didn't have that much of an effect on us in the next few years. The trolley cars had been put in service about 1897 but there was no grading initially. A water main and a little later a gas main was put through and I remember my father's diary states that "tonight I took a bath in my own bath tub."

There were several natural features in this area, primarily a huge meadow, part of which was improved way back in the 1600's. A little of the meadow still remains up near Allen Avenue and the woods, but it was a very impressive thing to see that whole area from Allen Avenue over to Edgewood Avenue and beyond and part way up Maine Avenue when it was in flood. The only outlet was Fallbrook. Where it ran down in back of our houses the brook, which was 6 or 8 feet wide normally, would suddenly become 150 feet wide during some of the

spring and fall run-offs. Washington Avenue was apt to be covered with water and from old diaries I found that it was not unusual for the road to be covered with water. This is now underground in a huge storm pipe put through in the 1950's. The primary source for Fallbrook was "a fountain of water" approximately where Shaw's Supermarket now stands. In other words, this was a spring and produced a tremendous amount of water year-round. There were other springs over in the meadow.

Another object we could see from our back porch was Elephant Rock. This was a huge boulder in back of Ray Street on the edge of Graves Hill. It didn't look like the front end of an elephant, but it probably looked like the rest of the elephant. There was a similar boulder which, per a deed, locates the East Deering Cemetery as so many feet from a mark on that rock. Both boulders appear as surveyors references in the old deeds. Over back of the Benjamin Sawyer house on the Lane, almost in line with the American Can Company was Rocky Hill. This was purchased by the city about 1918 so as to have a source of crushed stone, as more and more streets were being paved. Quite often at noon-time in the summer months we would hear a high-pitched whistle warning people, followed by an explosion as they blasted rock. Also at noon there were several other enterprises near Morrill's corner, each of which would blow the noon-time quitting whistle. If the wind was from the direction of the bay, more pleasant whistles could be heard from the island steamers, the Aucocisco having the most melodious tone. On a summer's evening we would hear the planing mill near Morrills working late, summer time being the time when the carpenters were the busiest. We also would hear the freight trains working their way up grade toward Falmouth. They would labor to get a little headway with the familiar "Choof, Choof, Choof, Choof," gradually increasing until the wheels spun at which time the engineer would close the throttle and start all over again, but the train, of course, had gained some

headway. The most pleasant sound we heard was in the spring time when the little frogs, called peepers, all burst into a chorus, the entire area was alive with their high-pitched peeping. With the Meadow in close proximity they put up quite a chorus.

In the spring the dog-tooth violets grew in abundance on the banks of the two washes created by the overflowing brook. May flowers with their sweet scent grew on the other side of the street near the edge of the woods. In June if you walked up into the back field, you could smell the field strawberries.

The side streets had not as yet been paved, and I remember walking along Ray Street above our field and toward the new street, Maine Avenue. It was very pleasant with all the neatly mown fields and the fragrance they produced.

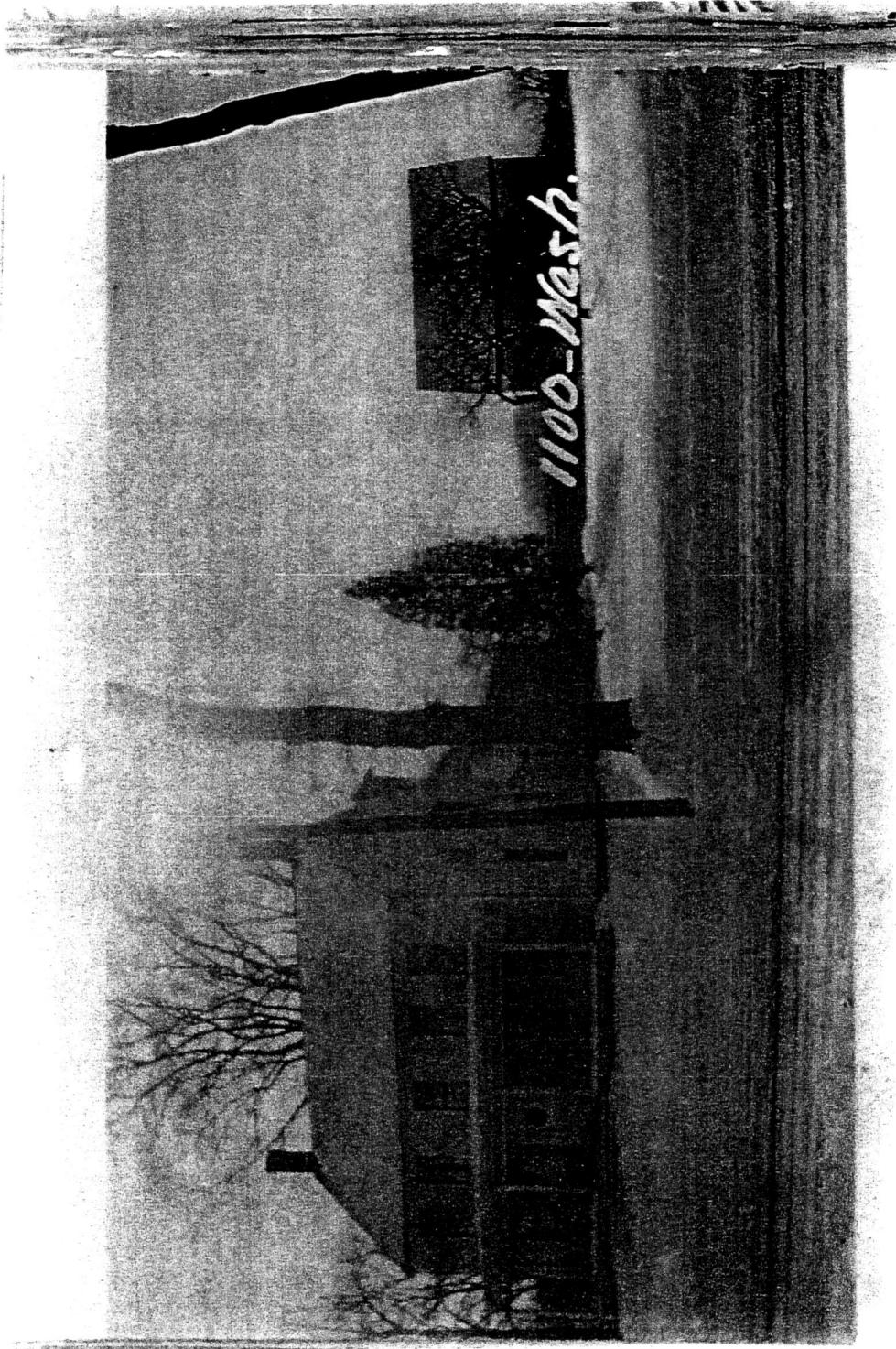
It was still a beautiful countryside and other people expressed the same thought that I had in wishing we were back before the days of the trolley car and other vehicles which were noise-making.

Now let us go back two hundred years and consider the family of Henry and Priscilla Knight of Newbury, Massachusetts who moved to Falmouth in 1735. At that time they had five children but would ultimately have nine, the last one being Eunice. The Knights settled on the old Back Cove Road (Ocean Ave.) just to the east of where Isaac Sawyer, the first Sawyer at Back Cove, owned land and settled some ten years earlier. On April 14, 1736, Henry Knight purchased 66 acres of land from Ebenezer Hall, Jr. This land lay northwesterly of what we now call Canco Road, but extended over to where Ray Street turns toward Washington Avenue. Now, you must remember that there was no Washington Avenue in those days, in fact it's doubtful if we had an official Ray Street, but I think it was being used at that time. It joined the Back Cove Road to the Falls Road. The lot was 160 rods from northeast to southwest and 60 rods from northwest to southeast. Before we proceed further, it might be well to mention the names of the children



Assessors Photo

House on the Lane, Mark Knight, Thomas Sawyer, Benjamin Sawyer



Assessor's Photo

Captain Samuel Knight and Samuel Knight, Jr.

in Henry Knight's family, as we will have other reference to some of them. The oldest was Nathan, born 1724, followed by Hannah in 1727. The next one is quite important to us, Samuel, born in 1729, and Mark who had quite a role in this, 1731. Then we find Henry (who stayed on his father's farm on Ocean Avenue) born in 1733. Then we'll skip down to the youngest child who has an important part in this, Eunice, but we don't have her actual date of birth, but it was apparently after 1746. We are indebted to Charles S. Tibbetts for his genealogy of the Knight family.

At 1100 Washington Avenue stands the house built by Samuel Knight. Samuel built his house and possibly had the assistance of his father who was also a housewright. I think it is safe to assume that a brother, Mark Knight, did the same thing with his father's help by building the house on the Lane. When Mark Knight sold the house on the Lane to Daniel Ilsley, he mentions that it is the farm on which he now lives and that it includes a house and barn, Registry 18/255. Earlier he acquired title to the southeast half of the 60 acre lot of land, Registry 8/407. The deed describes a line drawn through the middle from end to end without regard as to quality. In other words, Samuel Knight's northwesterly part is now set off as distinct from the other part with the house on the Lane. The date of that division is February 1, 1775. The old house on the Lane was used almost like a duplex with one family on one side of the house and another family on the other side. We have Eunice Knight and her husband Thomas Sawyer living "in a house on land adjoining her brother, Samuel Knight's house lot," and we have Mark Knight and his wife Margaret living on the other side. The genealogy states Mark served in William Cobb's company in the Revolution, and after the war settled in Otisfield. The date when Mark Knight sold his house was November 16, 1779. The price was 120 pounds. On December 1, 1786, Daniel Ilsley sold the property

to Eunice Sawyer and there seems to be about 12 additional acres. This appears to be land to the southeast, Registry 45/371. The price is 180 pounds.

By the 16th of April, 1805, Eunice is gone, the siblings give off their rights, and Benjamin Sawyer becomes the owner of that property, Registry 70/380. The grant from the Proprietors states that there is a reservation for a road through the land to the west and the Lane seems to be the beginning of that. The Lane ran up toward Rocky Hill and before they did any work with Rocky Hill, skirted the hill on the northwest side so that you had a roadway to a point near Morrill's corner. I have walked and ridden my bicycle through the entire Lane numerous times.

As is evident, the property is now Sawyer property and a little later we will discuss some of Benjamin's descendants. One of his granddaughters, Sophia K. Sawyer, is my grandmother. She married Simeon Sawyer of the Asa Sawyer family. Their common ancestor was Isaac Sawyer, Jr., but first we should mention Captain Samuel Knight and his property. He was in charge of one of the three militia companies in Falmouth at the time of the American Revolution, hence the rank of Captain. His son, Samuel, was a member of that militia group. It was the younger Samuel's daughter, Sarah, who married Asa Sawyer and one of their children was my grandfather, Simeon Sawyer.

This is a good place to pause and mention some of the people who made this history. Isaac Sawyer came to Falmouth with his family in 1727. The first three generations lived on the Back Cove Road and are buried in East Deering. Then Asa brought the name to the northwest as did Thomas when he married Eunice Knight a generation earlier.

Knight-Sawyer Graveyard

I first became aware this graveyard as a small boy. My parents had taken my brother and me over in the back field on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. As we walked toward home, we entered the graveyard and stood before the Lewis B. Sawyer stone. My father told me that my middle name derived from that source. I asked him where Lewis Sawyer lived and he said down on the Lane.

In the early 40's, I cleaned up the graveyard and noticed that the earliest date on any stone was that for the death of Jeremiah Knight, who died April 15, 1789. That set me to wondering about our origins but it was not until 1965 that a chance encounter gave me a clue. Robert Cram, the son of my father's attorney, put me in touch with Mrs. Ethel Sawyer Carrians, a second cousin of my father. She gave me the male line and told me of the East Deering cemetery.

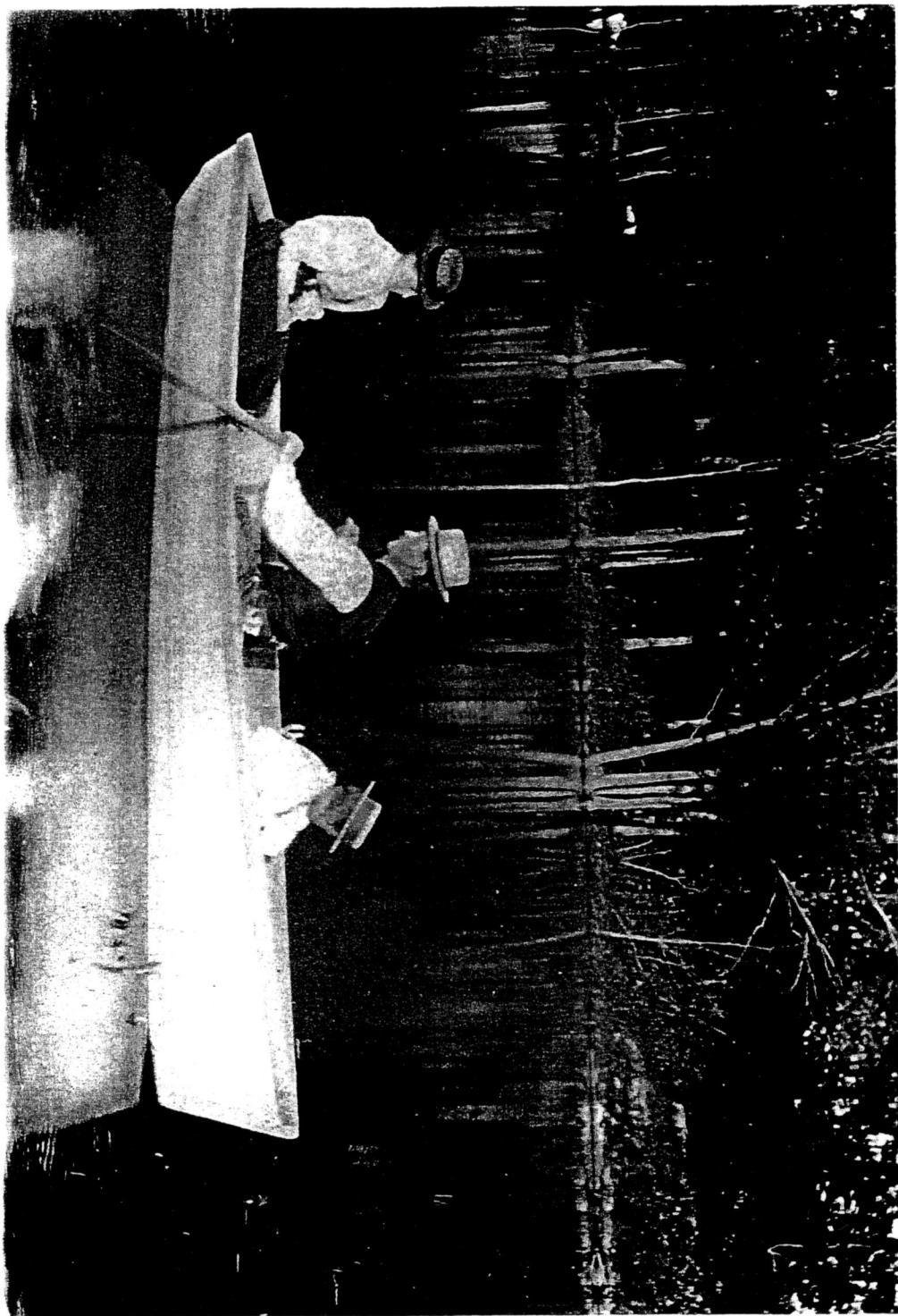
My father, Eugene W. Sawyer, acquired the ten acres in which the graveyard was situated on July 16, 1887, Registry 533/302. Toward the end of the description of the land is the following: "Also reserving the burial lot on the premise for the purposes now used, said lot being a block 64' by 54', the easterly line of said lot being 35' easterly from the headstone of Benjamin Sawyer's grave and the southerly line being 16' southerly from said headstone." That is a rectangle but it doesn't clarify which way it lies. Later I had a discussion and some correspondence with the Diocese and they agreed to move the fence toward Washington Avenue, thereby making a square of 64' by 64'. When the lawyer developed the deed in 1887, he had access to the will of my grandfather, Simeon Sawyer. Possibly the description in the will makes clear which way the graveyard lies. However, in 1908, the records of the Probate Court were lost in a fire, except for the index, which was at a bindery. Therefore, it is impossible to offer legal proof as to which way the lot lies, but it is now more evident to me that the long dimension is northwest to southeast. About ten years after my brother acquired

title to those premises, I noted the first sign of vandalism and suggested a fence. In 1974, during a little vacation trip to Maine, we drove by and noted the construction of the nursing home, St. Joseph's Manor. I had no previous knowledge of the transfer of title. We drove in and noted the stockade fence around the burial ground. At the time we were still living in West Boxford, Massachusetts. My brother stated that he went into the field before construction started and picked up numerous pieces of shattered stones and returned them to the graveyard. I found that pile plus evidence that several graves had been disturbed. In one case there was a sharp piece of slate protruding from a grave. Probably it was April of 1975 when I put shovel, crowbar, rope and other tools in the car and drove up to clean the graveyard. When trying to get that piece of slate out of the ground, I found myself digging down and down. Finally I realized the grave had been dug out and upon finding nothing, these ghouls had tipped the entire grave stone into the grave upside down. I was able to extract it and reset Eunice's stone and fill the grave. Each year at Patriot's Day, I made the trip cleaning the burial ground as best I could in a single day. After Patriot's Day, the poison ivy made it impossible. Now that we are back in Maine, I've done better and we've had a huge pine tree removed for if it were to blow down it would uproot several graves, to say nothing of the damage it could do to buildings or automobiles.

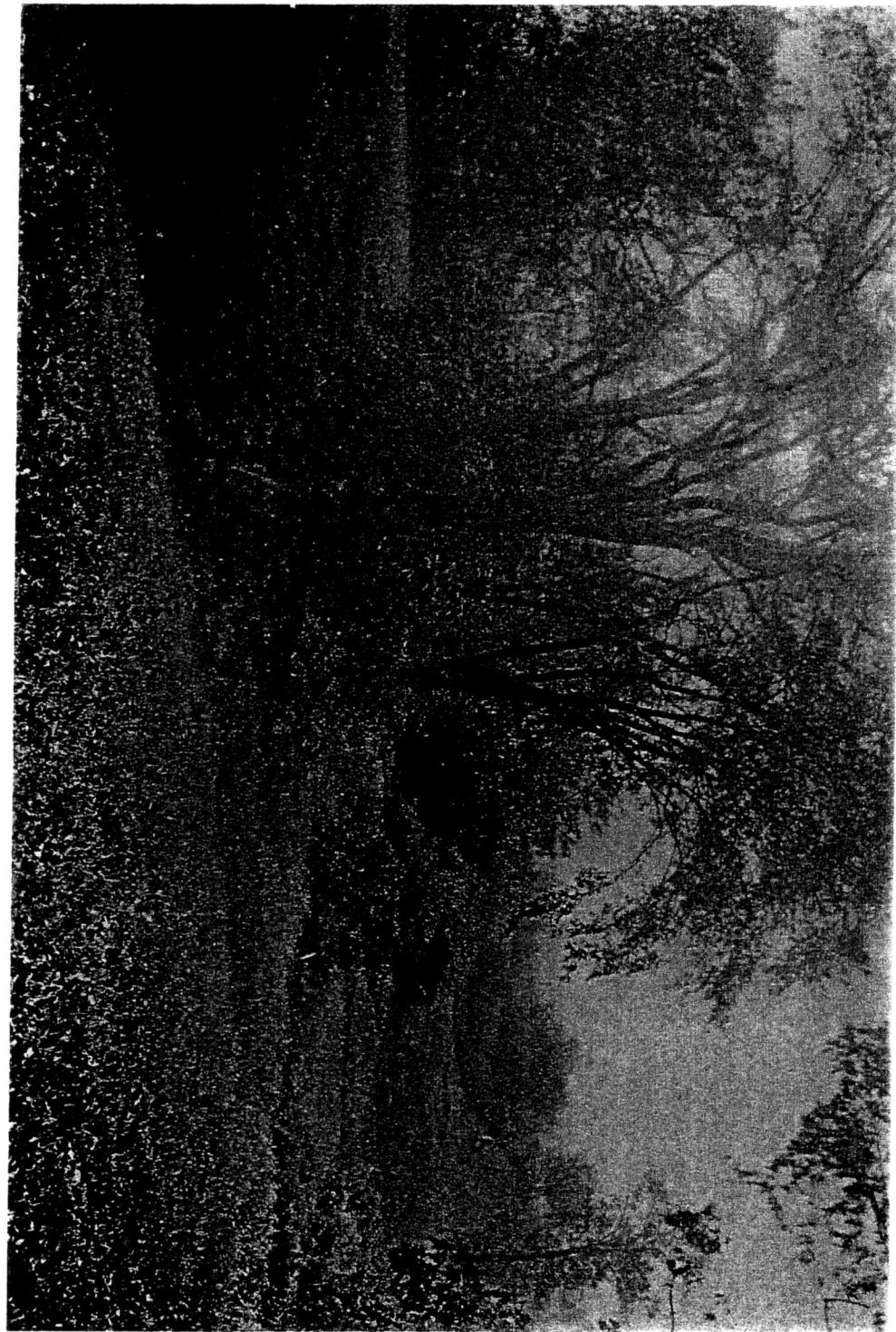
Attached is a listing of those buried here in so far as the stones inform me. There has been other information apparently obtained from relatives about 100 years ago, but some information which should have been available at that time is missing. For example, Comfort Lang Sawyer, the second wife of Lewis, may or may not be buried here. Maybe there is a sliver of the Knight stone just below the ground listing Rebecca Blake Knight, the second wife of Samuel Knight, but I



Built by Simeon circa 1863 Eugene Sawyer acquired 1895



Pond created by cousin, Amasa Cobb of 1105 for ice.
My father's diary mentions boat 1898. He, Ida his wife & George Jackson occupants.



My father's GROVE Brook makes horseshoe turn / Graveyard is to left



Mown fields toward Ray Street & beyond Lady & 1119 was subject

have not seen it. There are numerous ledge stones and we can only guess who is buried at those points.

The location of this burial ground was particularly beautiful. My father's diaries indicate that he spent some Sunday afternoons in what he called his "Grove." This would be the land just west of the burial ground. It sloped down to the brook, which made a horseshoe turn around the ledge at this place. At the point where the brook took a right angle turn to the west beginning the horseshoe turn, my father set a barrel over a natural spring. The brook traveled about 150 feet from that point entering the horseshoe turn I have described and proceeding to the southeast. The gurgling of the brook thus could be heard from three directions. The last summer of my father's life there came a day when my mother said he was not able to go down to Casco Bay that year, so we had a picnic over in the grove. My father undoubtedly had pleasant memories of that area. It is impossible to picture its appearance now, except for a photo taken undoubtedly by Charles Jackson. In that picture the graveyard is just out of range of the camera, but over to one side you can see two people coming down a slope and that would probably be my father and his first wife, Ida Merrill. When the brook flooded in the spring and fall it came out of its normal bed and gouged out land toward Washington Avenue. Then turning below the ledge, gouged out land just to the left of the graveyard. Obviously this had gone on for hundreds of years.

There seems to be eight feet between the rows of headstones and three feet is apparently allowed for a grave, therefore I think the long dimension is northwest by southeast with about four rows of graves and possibly three foot sections allowed for a grave.

The Samuel Knight stone and the stones for other family members are the only Knight stones in the graveyard, but I suspect there are other Knights. The Samuel Knight which is marked is actually the son of Captain Samuel Knight.

The wife of Thomas Sawyer, Eunice Knight, could very well be buried here, as she was the youngest sister of Captain Samuel Knight. She, of course, married into the other branch of the Sawyers and in turn deeded off the old house on the Lane and the land to her son, Benjamin Sawyer. Benjamin and Rebecca and their daughters are marked with slate stones. Nearby, is the Lewis B. Sawyer stone with reference to his first wife.

MV F197.2 Chas. Tibbett's Falmouth Cemeteries
Cemetery rear of 1125 Washington Avenue

Samuel Knight died Feb. 24, 1820 aet 66, son of Captain Samuel and Mary (Knight) Knight and grandson of Henry Knight

Hannah, wife of Samuel Knight died May 10, 1794 aet 39

Rebecca, wife of Samuel Knight died Feb. 23, 1846 aet 84

Simeon, son of Samuel & Hannah Knight died May 28, 1809 aet 22

Jeremiah, son of Samuel & Hannah Knight died April 15, 1789 aet 17

Asa Sawyer died June 27, 1858 aet 81, son of Anthony

Sarah, wife of Asa Sawyer died Jan. 1, 1851 aet 71, daughter of Samuel Knight

Benjamin Sawyer died Dec. 13, 1825 aet 56, son of Thomas and Eunice (Knight) Sawyer

Rebecca, wife of Benjamin Sawyer died Oct. 3, 1852 aet 76, daughter of Adam and Betsey (Knight) Barbour

Eunice, daughter of Benjamin & Rebecca Sawyer, died Sept. 9, 1820 aet 19

Mary B., wife of Capt. Stephen Morse died May 25, 1825 aet 22

Lewis, only child of Capt. Stephen and Mary B. Morse died Mar. 21, 1825 aet 17 mos.

Nancy Y. Sawyer died July 16, 1824 aet 21

Caroline Sawyer born 1820, died 1891

Lewis B. Sawyer, died Jan. 24, 1858 aet 60. Lewis Bean Sawyer, son of Benjamin and Rebecca Sawyer was named for his mother's great great grandfather, Lewis Bean or Bane

Faronia (Fanny), wife of Lewis B. Sawyer died Dec. 27, 1827 aet 31, daughter of Richard and Abigail Knight

Thomas S. Whitten died Aug. 29, 1826 aet 18

To avoid confusion, the following may be helpful:

Locations Named & Renamed

One of the difficulties encountered in reading the records at the Registry of Deeds is the name given to a location or road at various times. For example, Washington Avenue is well-known in the city of Portland, but when it was Deering, it was called Main Street. Earlier when it was Westbrook, it was called the Meadow Road, which is the original name. Above Allen's Corner it was known as Quaker Lane. There was a time when the road below Allen's Corner was called the road from Shaw's Corner. Shaw being the man who built the "Inn" or "Tavern" at the northeast corner of Allen Avenue and Washington Avenue. Later after Dr. Solomon Allen purchased that building it was known as Allen's Corner and is so called to this day.

Morrill's Corner was also called Shaw's Corner because the cousin of the man at Allen's Corner was a merchant conducting his business from Morrill's Corner. Later that corner was known as Bishop's Corner.

If one's life span was from 1814 to 1898, or a little later, and he lived in that area, he would have been living in Westbrook, Deering and Portland, all without actually moving. For four months in 1814, it was called Stroudwater. Since the Abbotts operated the store at Allen's Corner, the corner itself was occasionally referred to as Abbott's Corner.

The Meadow was called the Great Meadow, Bean's Meadow, Knight's Meadow and Thurlow's Meadow.

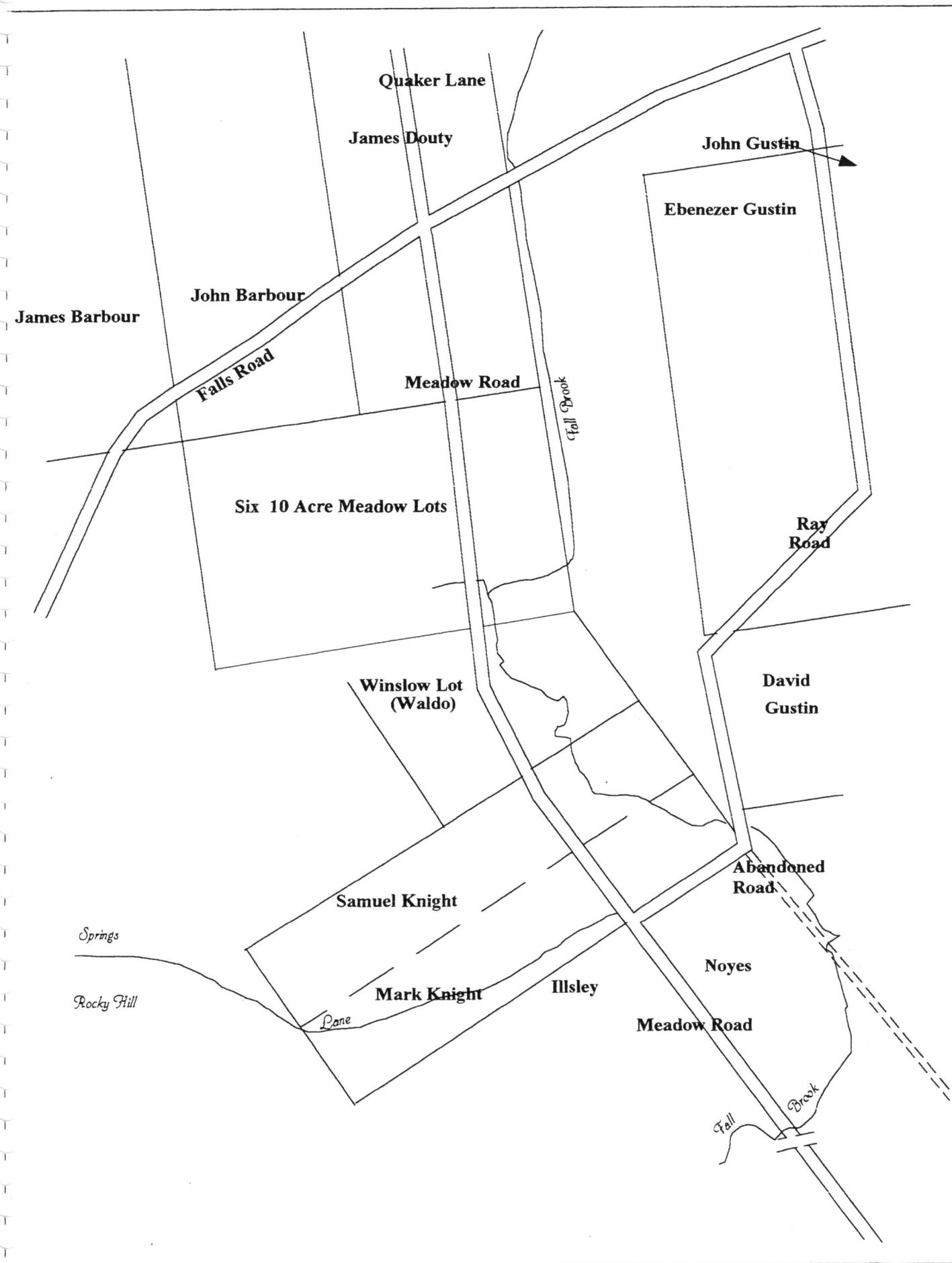
East Deering (the land below Ocean Avenue) was part of Back Cove. Many of the old deeds give the location as being in the Town of Falmouth at a place called Back Cove. In fact, Back Cove included everything from where the University of Southern Maine is located to Martin's Point.

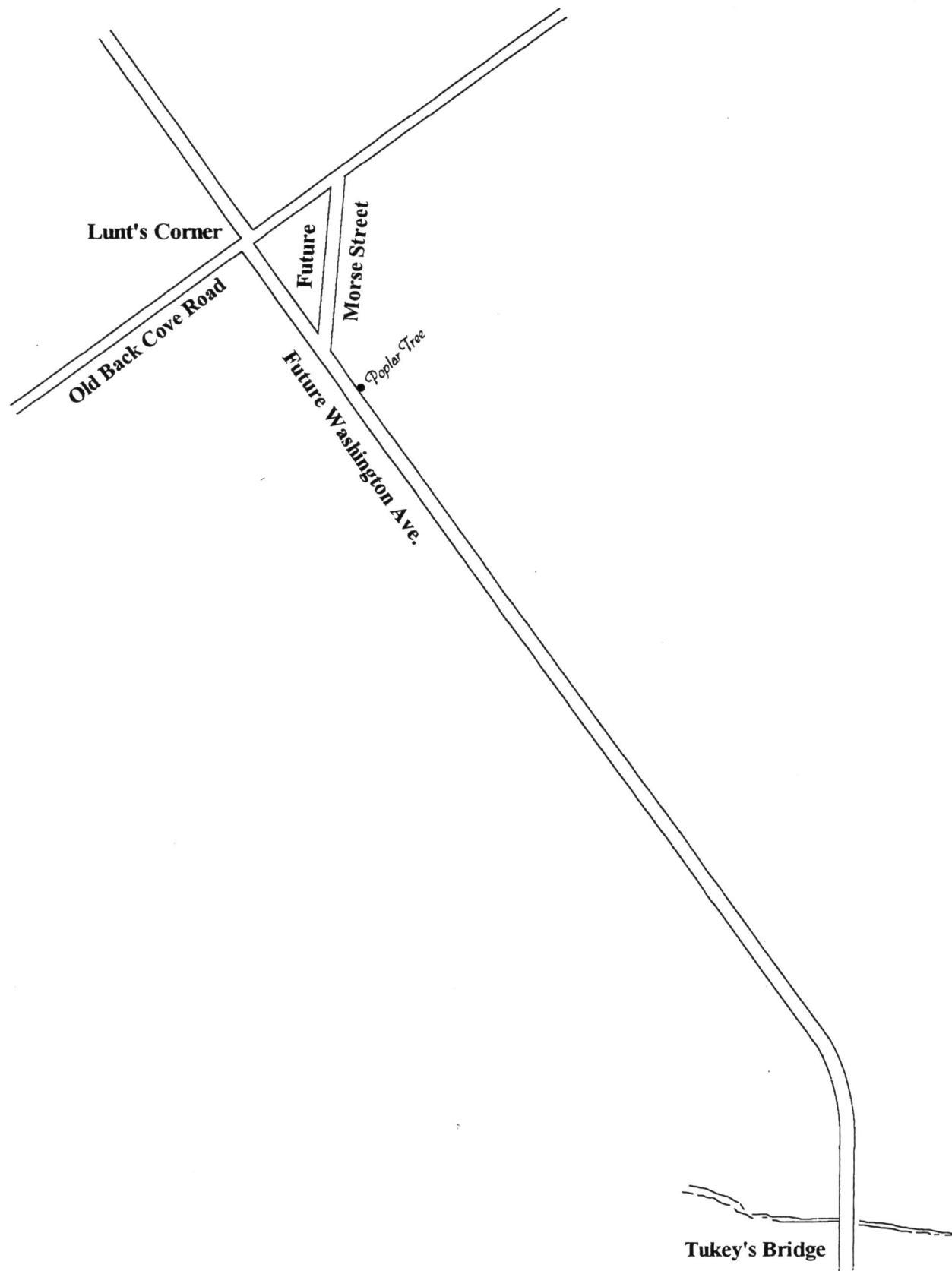
The road from Stroudwater to the Falls on the Presumpscot was built by Waldo and Westbrook in 1730 and was called the Falls Road. Actually, it is surveyed from the Presumpscot to where it intersects Congress Street. It was sometimes called the Pine Plains Road and the Steven's Plain Avenue, which included what we now call Allen Avenue.

What we now call Westbrook, was originally called Saccarappa, the Indian name for that town or area. The original road from Falmouth to Saccarappa was the road to Stroudwater (Congress Street) and what we call Westbrook Street.

The Deering Road later known as Brighton Avenue was built around 1800. At first it was called the Deering Road because it went straight to the Deering Farm, now the University of Southern Maine.

Straight roads and highways were the thing after the American Revolution, so when you encounter an older but straight road, it usually dates from about 1800 or later. The Newbury Turnpike is an example. It is straight, but it would have been very hard on the horses going up and down those large hills. Auburn Street in Portland goes to Auburn, logically, but is sometimes called the Gray Road. Again, it is straight, but it has to go up over Morrison's Hill, which usually brought all the motor vehicles, up until World War II, down to a slow speed.





The Knights

The Meadow was very important to the early settlers as everything else was thick forest with no place to pasture animals. Ten acre lots appear to have been the rule. Later, as other land was cleared, the Meadow lots became available. The Knights were aware of this, I'm sure, but more of that later.

All of the town records were destroyed back in 1690 with the Massacre but there were relatives in Portsmouth, Marblehead, Salem and other towns holding these deeds for safekeeping.

As they were trying to resettle the town, now called Falmouth, it was not uncommon for the Proprietors to grant a lot of land only to find some of these relatives coming forward with the actual deed to the same property. The Proprietors would then be obliged to settle the recent inhabitants further back. It is unnecessary to delve into this problem here but we seem to have one of those ancient claims acquired by a Phineas Jones who traded with them. He sold this and others to Samuel Waldo, the son of a Boston merchant, both father and son buying large amounts of Maine lands. Waldo died unexpectedly in 1758 leaving about six heirs to deal with this property.

Registry 7/224 dated Sept. 18, 1760 shows Isaac Winslow and his wife Lucy selling a piece of land to Samuel and Mark Knight. Lucy is one of Waldo's daughters. The lot adjoins Knight's northwesterly boundary for eighty rods, then turns northwest fifty-six rods, then turns east for eighty-three rods "by the foot of some ten acre lots near the Fresh Meadow." The final dimension running southeast is thirty-nine rods.

I think it is Book 4, page 69, which lists Waldo properties and his heirs at the registry.

On March 3, 1790, Samuel Knight, Jr. acquired title to his father's property and the other heirs sign off, Registry 17/483. Those signing that release or deed

are Zebulon Knight of Otisfield, Amos Knight of Falmouth, Stephen Knight of Otisfield, and Joseph Pride and his wife Mary of Falmouth. The consideration was 100 Pounds and refers to the house as the Old Place and I guess that includes the land. Some of the tracts mentioned in that deed are difficult to pinpoint but in so far as the lots in the meadow are concerned, Samuel Knight, Jr. seems to have negotiated most of those. In the case of the Winslow lot and one meadow lot, where Mark Knight is shown as part owner, his name is removed as he prepares to move to Otisfield, Registry 60/170.

In the late 19th century and early 20th century a very prolific gatherer of historical information was Leonard B. Chapman. His material has been deposited at the Maine Historical Society and is very useful.

The Knights and Sawyers intermarried several times. Marriages of immediate interest are listed below.

Zackariah, son of Isaac and Sarah Brackett Sawyer married to Sarah Knight, daughter of Henry and Priscilla Knight Aug. 27, 1754.

Thomas, son of Isaac and Sarah Sawyer married to Eunice, daughter of Henry and Priscilla Knight March 31, 1767.

Hannah, daughter of Zackariah and Sarah Sawyer married to Samuel Knight, son of Samuel and Mary Knight 1778.

Asa, son of Anthony and Susanna Marston Sawyer married to Sarah Knight, daughter of Samuel and Hannah Knight April 26, 1801.

Lewis B., son of Benjamin and Rebecca Sawyer married to Faronia Knight, daughter of Richard and Abigail Knight February 26, 1822. As you may have guessed, the first child of this marriage was my grandmother, Sophia K. Sawyer. She married Simeon, son of Asa and Sarah Sawyer.

There were six lots in the Meadow and they were numbered from east to west. #1 appears to be east of where the Meadow Road was later established.

They were twenty rods wide except for the most westerly, which was twenty-eight rods. They were all eighty rods in length from southeast to northwest. The southeasterly corners were several types of pine trees and one poplar. Of course, there were other odd shaped lots owned by various people.

A 1732 agreement between Old Proprietors and New determined that each Inhabitant (qualified as such by a ten pound payment) was entitled to 104 acres, 60, 30, 10, 3 and 1. This cleared the air and numerous grants followed.

Since the Knights did not come to Falmouth until 1736, we will back track a little here and there, especially when we consider East Deering then known as Back Cove. First we will speak of North Deering.

Allens Corner

If you draw a line across the top of the meadow lots, it becomes the bottom line of some sixty acre lots to the northwest. These sixty acre lots were sixty rods wide and one hundred and sixty rods in depth. As 160 square rods comprise an acre, it is easy to see why these were convenient measurement for the Proprietors. What we now call Allen Avenue crosses these lots in a sort of arc. The lot which lays directly over Allens Corner was granted to James Douty (as it was spelt in 1732). This grant can be found on page 89 in the Proprietors book at the registry.

On page 14, Part II of William Willis' History of Portland, he states that when the fort was abandoned in 1715, James Douty was among fifteen soldiers and their families who came in to the peninsula in Falmouth. He states that Douty was a shoemaker born in 1680.

The lot to the west was granted to John Barbour and the next lot to the west went to James Barbour. We are interested in the Barbour family as Rebecca, daughter of Adam Barbour married Benjamin Sawyer. Adam was the son of Hugh Barbour who was John's son. This may be the place to deviate a little. In 1736, Hugh Barbour married Mary Bean and it is back through the Bean family we find Rebecca's great great grandfather was Lewis Bane of the Scottish Plantation, probably Lewis Bane, Jr. The History of York mentions Lewis Bane as coming from Scotland and being one of those killed by the Indians. There is more to relate about the disposition of the Barbour land later.

On December 20, 1739, James Douty sold the western half of his lot to son David. The dividing line is the long dimension and 30 acres is the quantity. See Book 21, page 241. On April 15, 1740, David sold this land to John Waite, Phineus and Stephen Jones, Book 19, page 328. The Joneses, father and son, apparently sold the property shortly there after to Samuel Crockett. We find

reference to that in a deed given by Crockett to Jonathan Tracy on May 11, 1742, Book 23, page 42.

The next event of importance is when Quaker Lane, now known as outer Washington Avenue, was laid out. The town record reads as follows: 18 May 1752 voted the above road be accepted and be three rods wide. Stephen Longfellow, Town Clerk. Then it gets a little confusing but the intent seems to be a two rod road, one rod from Tracy and one rod from Thomas Douty. The road is over nine northwesterly and northeasterly courses to the Presumpscot at James Winslows Landing. A small Quaker meeting house was erected in 1752. With the building of this road, two corners were established and with the Meadow Road of 1800, four corners existed. My interest concerns the date when the Inn was built, the date when the brick store was built, and when Amos Abbott acquired the store. He was the brother of Elizabeth Sawyer, wife of George Sawyer, and grandparents of George Jackson, one of my best informants.

On April 1, 1762, Jonathan Tracy sold the thirty acres to Richard Codman, Book 2, page 46. Codman was a merchant, a deacon of the First Parish Church for a number of years, and was married to one of Reverend Thomas Smith's daughters. On November 12, 1803, William Codman, son of Richard, sold the entire thirty acres to Zebedee Cushman of Hebron. Book 53, page 358 apparently a mortgage deed reflects that transfer. By Dec. 28, 1807, Bartlett Holmes and Alpheus Shaw have ownership of this thirty acres and are transferring title to Joseph Sewall, Samuel Salisbury, John Tappan, and Josiah Salisbury, all of Boston who are described as merchants and partners. In the text, apparently Bartlett Holmes and Alpheus Shaw purchased this property on the 21st of November 1807 from Zebedee Cushman. We encounter those merchants' names frequently but are most interested in Alpheus Shaw and his cousin Bella. They came from Massachusetts, Bella establishing a store at Morrills Corner and

Alpheus building the Inn at Allens Corner. It appears Alpheus' father was at Paris, Maine.

Quoting from L. B. Chapman's notes: "A little easterly of North Deering upon the northerly side of the way leading to Presumpscot Falls resided the Doughty family in a large two story unpainted house as I remember it." That is the only description I have found of the Douty residence, and I would judge it became for a time maybe, Alpheus' as he married Jane Douty, daughter of Joseph and Hannah (Hinks) Douty.

The four Boston merchants appear as mortgagees for the most part apparently speculating in the development of Allens Corner as it would become to be known. Book 64, page 42 Bartlett Holmes in consideration of \$3,268.00 sold the thirty acres to these four gentlemen. Probably it is a mortgage deed as the terms of a note are spelled out, the date June 28, 1811.

On October 2, 1812, Adam Barbour, housewright, sold the easterly half of his sixty acres to Alpheus Shaw, gentleman, for \$1,000.00. April 15, 1814, find Barbour selling the westerly half to Shaw for the same amount. The town is shown as Stroudwater as it was briefly known before becoming Westbrook. Neither deed mentions buildings. On April 1, 1820, Shaw sells the entire sixty acres to Stephen Knight for \$1,750.00, Book 95, page 234, again no buildings are mentioned.

On February 2, 1821, Amasa Fobes purchased the northwest corner of 155 square rods with small house and blacksmith shop thereon, Book 90, page 197. The consideration was \$235.50. On April 12, 1823, Fobes purchased the nine acres contained in the southwesterly corner, Book 93, page 350. Fobes was a blacksmith.

The next is difficult to set forth because of the intertwining ownerships, mortgages, and schedules of properties. However, on October 19, 1835, Alden

Jackson purchased the brick store and lot from Joseph Sewall and Samuel Salisbury, Book 143, page 282. On October 2, 1837, Jackson sold this property to Nathaniel Blanchard, Book 155, page 430. It then passed to Josiah Field, Francis O. J. Smith, and Cyrus Thurlow. Finally, on November 5, 1857, Cyrus Abbott and Amos Abbott purchased the property for \$10,000.00, Book 282, page 276. So we have established that the construction took place two or three years prior to 1835.

Alpheus Shaw built the Inn and sold it to Doctor Solomon Allen on February 28, 1824. He also sold some of the southeasterly quadrant of the original 60 acre lot to Doctor Allen, Book 98, page 308. I have not tried to determine when Shaw acquired the land upon which the Inn was built. L. B. Chapman thought it was built before 1812.

Back Cove (East Deering)

We seem to have had several families from Newbury who wished to relocate in Falmouth and because of various transactions negotiated in the winter, it appears likely Joseph Noyes and Isaac Ilsley were living here. Sometimes the heads of families bought land and buildings, later bringing their wives and children. Among the larger purchasers were these two gentlemen who bought adjacent properties at Back Cove. Their common lot line ran all the way from the water edge up to what we call Ray Street, Ilsley to the west and Noyes to the east.

To better understand the lay of the land, there were two creeks crossing this line. Both were tidal inlets from Back Cove, Marsh Creek to the southeast, and Hansons Creek an eighth of a mile further up. Marsh Creek still exists at the foot of Dalton Street, originally crossing our Washington Avenue a little northwest of Randall Street. Hansons Creek crossed at Johanson Street and had not been filled in when I was a boy.

According to the old deeds, there was a poplar tree on the northwest of Hansons Creek at what became the easterly edge of Washington Avenue. At that point the lot line ran 240 rods northwest to the edge of Ebenezer Hall Junior's (later Henry Knight's) lot. The people selling the land to Isaac Ilsley were Stephen Greenleaf and his wife, Mary. Moses Gould and his wife, Phebe were the ones selling to Joseph Noyes and it was land northwest of Marsh Creek.

The first purchase was by Joseph Noyes and since it is concise, I will copy it in its entirety.

Invanzey in County of Bristol Eng

Peres Bradford to Joseph Noyes of Newbury in County of Essex, Yeoman a certain tract of land situate lying and being in Falmouth in the county of York and contains by estimation 50 acres be it more or less and bounds northwesterly on a creek dividing it from Moses Goulds land, North on Ebenezer Halls land, Easterly on the Bay so called, and Southerly on Back Cove so called or otherwise bounded or reputed to be bounded

25th day of January 1736

Three Seventy hundred and Seventy Pounds

Reg. 63/19 York

In Book XXVII, Folio 287, Isaac Ilsley paid 552 pounds for two tracts of land. One contains one hundred acres, the other lot contains five acres in the Great Meadow. Part of the description is as follows: Beginning at a Birch and Poplar trees standing in a Gulley on Eastward side of John Lewis' old Plantation thence running along Gulley into the Creek and down into the Back Cove.

The second deed shows consideration of Forty Eight Pounds. The description refers to the various people who have held title to the land and it is not definitely described but seems to be one hundred acres. There is no explanation as to the difference in the price. Reg. same Book & Page. Both deeds passed January 27, 1735.

On March 4, 1736 Joseph Noyes purchased two hundred acres from the Goulds for 1300 pounds. Parts of the description read as follows: One Certain Tract of Upland Meadow and Flatts Together with the House Barn Wharf & Fences thereon standing ---- Bounded as follows beginning at a Stake Standing in the Marsh Creek South Forty Eight Degrees East twenty five Rods and an half from a great Rock to the Eastward of my House which said Stake is the Corner Bounds there between me and my Brother in Law Cornelius Hall as may appear

by an Instrument ---- and from said Stake running down as the Creek runs untill it meets the Creek that comes down from the House formerly Stephen Greenleaf's along by my Wharf & thence running up said Creek as it runs untill it comes to a Poplar Tree marked standing by the Gulley and to the Northward of Greenleaf's House aforesaid which is the Tree where Isaac Ilsley and I said Gould run over North West from & from said Poplar Tree running North West two hundred & thirty seven Rods to a Stake and from thence running North East Seventy four Rods (& a half) to a Small Pine Tree marked T & from the first bound Stake mentioned to run North Forty eight Degrees West twenty five Rods & an half to the middle of the great Rock above thence North Thirty four Degrees West one hundred and nineteen rods to a Stake & from thence running on a Straight Line to the Pine Tree marked T which bears about North West 5 degrees West & about two hundred & twenty five Rods Distance.

Later we can match some of these figures with at least one other deed.

So that we may visually see what this lot line between Ilsley and Noyes looks like, we will jump ahead to 1796 when a bridge was completed, and people near the Presumpscot River partitioned for a road. Following the same course as the bridge, a road was laid out for 28 rods until it encountered the Ilsley-Noyes lot line. Quoting from the description of the road, northwest by said line one hundred and eighty rods, then north 52 rods to the road leading to the lower bridge on the Presumpscot River, this last course (our Morse Street) passing between Col. Noyes' house and barn. The second course to lay all on the west on Major Ilsley's Land.

In 1800 when they brought the Meadow Road down from the Falls Road and encountered the lot line, they took two rods out of each property until reaching the Old Back Cove Road. Then the link-up with the earlier road took

place by aligning the short piece with that section. It is interesting to note this lot line was established by George Cleeves in 1658.

Now we find one of those problems occasioned by the repeating of given names. In this case the name is Benjamin, Benjamin Sawyer. He is the next to youngest son in the Isaac Sawyer Jr. family, the youngest being Thomas who married Eunice Knight. This Benjamin bought land from Daniel Ilsley being the land from the Old Back Cove Road to the land of our Benjamin Sawyer Jr. and on the westerly side of the Meadow Road. This took place on April 22, 1801. The deed states that the lot is 160 rods in length and 18 rods in width and as previously noted, 160 square rods equals one acre so this property is 18 acres. On May 15, 1818, Benjamin Sawyer's widow, Miraim sells their one acre house lot to Rowland Knight. The 18 acres excepting this and one other house lot now descends to Zebulon.

Zebulon and his wife Rebecca Ford Sawyer had several children, the oldest of whom is Benjamin, a ships carpenter. In deference to older Benjamins in the same neighborhood, it was customary to attach Junior, so our Benjamin became Benjamin Jr. The ships carpenter now has title to the 18 acres. A sister, Elizabeth A., married Isaiah Frank.

On Nov. 22, 1844 Benjamin the ships carpenter sold the property to Isaiah Frank for \$500.00. On the same day, Isaiah Frank enters into an agreement to care for Benjamin who is quote, ill and unable to provide means for his own support. The \$500.00 is to be expended for his care and necessities.

By working our way through the three Benjamins, we may have explained why Daniel Ilsley sold the additional 12 acres to Eunice in 1786. He may have been getting the remaining land down to the familiar 160 rods. It reminded me to look at the 1858 plan of property distribution occasioned by the Lewis B. Sawyer intestate death. It gives the linear frontage of those lots and totals 23 rods.



Probable Isaac Sawyer Home

Assessor's Photo

It might be interesting to see how two of that generation settled their estates, Isaac Ilsley and Isaac Sawyer. Isaac Ilsley died in 1781 but on March 21, 1767 he gave off to his four sons one quarter part of his real estate each. (He owned 185 acres or 45½ to each). His home was somewhere near Bates Street and was a garrison house later removed by a grandson, Henry. He stipulated certain obligations as to the care of his family and if any failed to comply, their part of the contract is void.

Isaac Sawyer died in 1772. He deeded his property in 1762. With Isaac Sawyer, there is a different approach. There is no consideration charged to son Thomas who acquires the property but instructions to pay "what I proposed to have given my children in my will if I had made any." Thomas is to pay the others as follows: My son Edward Sawyer 20 pounds, My son Abraham Sawyer 106 pounds 13 shillings and four pence, My daughter Elizabeth Jinks 6 pounds 13 shillings four pence, and my daughter Judith Brackett 6 pounds 13 shillings four pence. He also states that Elizabeth Jinks may sit in the family pew the remainder of her lifetime.

Later he mentions the 7½ acres he sold to his son in law, Benjamin Stevens who married his daughter Martha. I think Jinks published a newspaper. His name reminds me of an old song...

I'm Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines
I feed my horse on corn & beans
And often live beyond my means
Tho' a captain in the army

I'm Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines
I feed my horse on corn & beans
And sport young ladies in their teens
Tho' a captain in the army

I joined my corp when twenty one
Of course I thought it capital fun
When the enemy came, of course I run
For I'm not cut out for the army

The first time I went out to drill
The bugle sounding made me ill
Of the battlefield, I'd had my fill
For I'm not cut out for the army

Now we should look at the eastern margin of Joseph Noyes' purchase. The great rock marked with a cross is one of the surveyor's reference points. This rock was destroyed around 1846 when the Atlantic and St. Lawrence railroad was constructed. As a result we cannot duplicate some of this earlier boundary.

York Book XVIII Folio 241 discloses an agreement between Moses Gould and Cornelius Hall over a disputed boundary. With that resolved, the deed described earlier became possible.

About a year later, John Trott sold 55 acres to Isaac Sawyer Jr. and Thomas Sawyer, his brother. The easterly bounds are nearly parallel with the common bounds between Noyes and Trott. ----thence Northwest two hundred and twenty Rods to a Heap of stones Lying in the Side line of David Gustins sixty acre Lott and from thence Running west Twenty Seven degrees South or about Fifty four Rods to a Small Pine Tree marked T Standing on the Westerly side of Fall Brook the same being the upper Corner Bounds between me & Joseph Noyes ----- From there the line runs straight down 224 rods.

It is over this land that Isaac Sawyer Jr. suggested a road, offering his land for the course. On April 24, 1744 at a meeting he presented this but further suggested that the road would go directly to the southwest corner of Andrew Gibbs property. Nothing was done at that time but on November 14, 1755 a road was approved partly on the land of Peter Noyes and partly on the land of

Zachariah Sawyer, Zachariah having acquired this land after Isaac Jr.'s death. This was approved, but instead of going over Merrill's land it went between James Merrill's and Henry Knight's, this last previously being the Ebenezer Hall Junior's 60 acre lot. Zachariach was the oldest son of Isaac Sawyer Jr.

With people trying to get established at Back Cove and others selling and resettling further back, it is easier to follow the land than to get the sequence just right. In March 1736 we find Jasper Blake of Hampton New Hampshire purchasing acreage, a house, and garrison of Cornelius Hall, Reg. 19/33 York. This seems to be southeast of Marsh Creek and the great Rock, and is certainly twenty-five acres but probably more. On March 31, 1741 Jasper Blake bought three acres and 100 rods from Isaac Jr. and Thomas Sawyer. Reg. 24/260 York. This might be a long narrow strip giving room for an access road up to the Old Back Cove road and bounded on Joseph Noyes' easterly border.

Thomas, the oldest son of Isaac Sawyer Sr., died in 1765 and maybe there is no connection but on September 10, 1765 Isaac sold 22 acres of marsh and flatts to grandsons Zachariah and brother Anthony. Reg. 5/61. On April 6, 1792 Anthony sold his share to Zachariah as well as any interest in the fifty-five acres, Reg. 19/59.

Moving a little further east on the Old Back Cove Road (to be), and back in time to Oct. 10, 1726 we find Isaac Sawyer of Gloucester in the County of Essex, Yeoman, buying a farm so called from John Wass of Boston. It was formerly owned by various members of the 'Skillions' family and is bounded by land formerly of George 'Ingersons' and John 'Weakly.' It contains by estimation 100 acres. Six acres of marsh goes with the farm. Also on the Neck, Wass conveys a lot with house and barn which later appears to be on four acres. The wife of John Wass was Ann, daughter of Richard Wilmot, deceased. The lot was on Queen

Street (Congress Street) opposite the present Lincoln Park. Reg. XII Folio 144 York.

Reg. XII Folio 143 shows Isaac Sawyer buying an additional fifty acres. On January 13, 1736 the Proprietors laid out to Isaac Sawyer 53 acres on the northerly side of the Presumpscot River and also 50 additional acres in the same general location. These grants probably represent what he was entitled to as an inhabitant of Falmouth. Undoubtedly he sold these though I have not tried to locate the deeds. When he sold his farm in 1762, he had 119 acres.

In Reg. 16/158 Jonathan Sawyer, son of the late Thomas Sawyer, sold the westerly half of the farm to Simon Gooking January 5, 1779. On March 30, 1779 Jonathan Sawyer sold the easterly half of the farm to Isaac Sawyer his brother, Reg. 53/52.

On September 18, 1761, Mark Knight purchased from Joseph Pride 65 acres and 69 rods, the property being east of the Isaac Sawyer farm, Reg. 3/125.

Up to this point we have determined when and how the principle thoroughfares and landowners were established. Later I will list numerous deeds which would be helpful to someone who may wish to plot this material. We also have to examine the history of the East Deering Cemetery. For now I will refer to the division of the estate of Amos Noyes, April 30, 1811, Reg. 61/433. Since there were five heirs and 191 acres involved, the local school master, Tim Galvin was engaged to make a plan. That enabled the lawyer to designate the lot numbers for each heir.

The Noyes homestead was on the easterly side of what we call Morse Street at the juncture of the Old Back Cove Road. On the northeast corner formed by the Meadow Road and the Back Cove Road stood the Lunt house. The two families intermarried so those names are evident. Quoting from the indenture is the following: This Indenture of five parts made and concluded this 30th day of April,

1811 by and between Jane Lunt, widow of the one part, Peter Noyes, Yeoman of another part, Hutchinson Noyes, Yeoman of another part, Peter Lunt, Yeoman of another part, all of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland and Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Hosea Ilsley of Portland in said county Esquire as Guardian to Robert Noyes, Stephen Noyes, and Hannah Noyes, Minors, and heirs to Amos Noyes late of said Falmouth Massachusetts of the other part.

This is the largest estate we have studied then being broken up to these new owners. The plan shows the future Veranda Street with Tim Galvin's house on the Corner. Hutchinson Noyes' house is just behind facing toward the bridge. His orchard lot is near Lunts Corner with school house #4 just in on our Morse Street from the road which aligns with the Meadow Road. My father told me he attended that school about Civil War time. I have a work schedule belonging to his father, Simeon, a carpenter who was making alterations on that building. I think Peter Lunt's Lot #9 is where the East Deering Cemetery is located. In 1855 he and others being dissatisfied with damages proposed for the laying out of the future Presumpscot Street across their lands, petitioned for a jury decision. This was obtained December 10, 1856 and Peter Lunt's award was \$625.00 instead of the \$320.00 originally proposed. Since that street runs off at a 60 degree angle, his 78 rods is a little more than the depth of Lot #9 but Lot #9 seems to include the entire cemetery.

To see what became of some of the other lots, we'll refer to Reg. 12/160 carrying a date of October 20, 1836. This is where Captain Stephen Morse sold what were Lots 6, 7 & 8, as well as the Hutchinson Noyes orchard lot to Isaac Ilsley. When a teenager I chanced on a stone to his memory not far behind my grandparents' graves in Evergreen Cemetery. The records at the office shows his age as 47 and death date of June 15, 1844. From our Knight-Sawyer graveyard we have Mary B., wife of Captain Stephen Morse died May 25, 1825 and Lewis,

their only child died March 21, 1825. Although I have no records, I believe he married Sarah Thomas and there were several children. She signed the deed to Ilsley, Sarah N. Morse and that is the name of the lot owner but she is not buried there, though a blurred death date and age 83 appears. There are two who may be children, Sarah E. Morse age 22, Jan. 11, 1859 and Charles T. Morse age 32, Feb. 24, 1865. Charles is on adjacent stone as Captain. Captain Stephen Morse died at St. Joseph, Florida per inscription on stone.

I have not looked for the purchase date by Morse of the Noyes property but in the sale there is a brick house, barn, and other buildings at the same site as the old Noyes house. The consideration was \$3,605.00. I will not speculate upon his reason.

The East Deering Club owned or leased the dwelling when I attended Cummings School in the twenties and graduations were held over there as their hall was available and there were only classrooms in the school.

The property mentioned in the following deeds was not pertinent to our little story but were generally to the southeast of the Isaac Sawyer property.

Bayley to Ilsley & Waite Reg. XVIII Folio 190, 191, & 192.	1736
Phineus Jones to Joseph Noyes Reg. 24/294, 295.	1741
Ebenezer Hall to Joseph Noyes Reg. 24/296.	1741
Jonathan Flint to Samuel Lunt Reg. 24/89.	1743
Charity Lunt to Daniel Lunt Reg. 8/47.	1773

Isaac Sawyer's deed to adjacent land from John Waite is part of his deed to son Thomas and his children.

East Deering Cemetery
[also known as Chapman or Grand Trunk Cemetery]

There doesn't seem to be any mention of a burial ground for a long time. Deaths are mentioned. Property is transferred without mention until on August 17, 1814, a transfer between Thomas Blake and Samuel and Seward Porter gives a six rod & one link distance from the large stone to the cemetery.

I first became aware of it when Mrs. Carians told me that Anthony Sawyer was buried there. It was 1965 and I found his stone and a few others in a brush covered area at the rear of the cemetery adjacent to the Grand Trunk railroad. The area was in bad condition but nothing compared to how it looked a few years later. L. B. Chapman had overseen this and other ancient burial grounds (without pay) in Deering before it was annexed to Portland. He continued this, reporting annually.

Being out of state twenty years did not improve my knowledge of conditions. About 1980 I found a campfire area with gravestones used as seats. A fire had been built against a beautiful old oak which finished that. A little later there was a second campfire area up in the cemetery. Motorcycles were being run over a pathway until a groove of over a foot in depth resulted. Some boys told me of a gathering of motorcycles on weekends. The ground was covered with glass from broken bottles and even the four inch thick stone of Anthony was smashed. At my request the Park Department cleaned things somewhat but in the process disposed of most of that stone.

In 1989 Councilor Cheryl Leeman was contacted and she in turn spoke with officials of the Park Department and others. Courteous letters were received and the following spring some work was accomplished, but now ten years later Donn Matthews found that stones piled at the edge of the Grand Trunk property had been removed this summer. They were placed there to stop motorcycles from

gouging slots into graves. It required a front-end loader to replace them. Obviously these are not gravestones. Fencing destroyed by ATV operators has been replaced and a clever gateway would limit racing to and from the school grounds.

Because two sides of the cemetery are unfenced, problems are likely to continue. Cable cutters were used a few years ago when lumber was being stolen from the Grand Trunk premises so fencing on those two sides has doubtful value. The easiest police action is for a car to enter Dalton Street occasionally from which the rear of the cemetery can be observed. The local historian, William Jordan Jr., gave me a listing of the persons buried there which is attached.

I will take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the following city officials for a fine job in helping to preserve this cemetery:

City Councilor, Cheryl Leeman

George A. Flaherty, former Director of Parks/Public Works

Benjamin H. O'Reilly, former Superintendent of Parks

Donn Matthews, Superintendent of Parks

On November 18, 1999, I contacted Bonnie at police headquarters with my idea of a handy observation point for a patrolman to see motorcycles, ATVs, or vandals. It was well received and she will issue a special notice.

Barbour, John d.27 Ag 1869 aet. 67yrs.	Stone destroyed
Barbour, Mary A. dau. John & J.M. d.7 O 1855 aet. 27yrs.	Stone destroyed
Blake, Emeline dau. Samuel & Martha H. d.15 My 1847 aet. 19yrs., 11mos.	Stone destroyed
Blake, John G. s. Samuel & Martha d.26 S 1825 aet. 3yrs., 1mo.	Stone destroyed
Blake, Lucy wife William d.26 My 1807 aet. 38yrs.	Stone destroyed
Blake, Samuel d.14 F 1846 aet. 52yrs., 5mos. War of 1812; Hobbs' Regt., Mass. Militia	Stone destroyed
Blake, Sarah wife William d.18 Je 1843 aet. 67yrs.	Stone destroyed
Boothbay, Eva Ella dau. Silas & Frances I. d.9 Ja 1852 aet. 2yrs., 3mos.	Stone destroyed
Boothbay, Frances I. wife Silas b.1815 d.1893 "Mother"	
Boothbay, Frances Jane dau. George & Emma Barbour d.4 Jl 1846 aet. 15yrs., 8mos.	Stone destroyed
Boothbay, Silas b.1814 d.1867 "Father"	
Davis, Simon d.7 Mr 1810 aet. 44yrs., 6mos., 15dys.	Stone destroyed
Galvin, Harriet dau. Timothy & Joanna Ilsley d.21 S 1805 aet. 5yrs., 2mos.	Stone destroyed
Galvin, Timothy b.2 F 1776 d.21 Ja 1838 "Born in Ireland"	Stone destroyed

Graves, Andrew d.28 N 1860 aet. 86yrs., 6mos. War of 1812: Hobbs' Regt., Mass.Militia	Stone destroyed
Graves, Crispus n.d. Revolutionary War: Lieut., 12th Regt.Mass.Continental Line	Stone destroyed
Graves, Crispus d.15 Mr 1879 aet. 63yrs., 3mos.	Stone destroyed
Graves, Susannah wife Crispus d.4 D 1793 aet. 48yrs.	Stone destroyed
Graves, Tabitha wife Andrew d.7 S 1849 aet. 67yrs., 4mos.	Stone destroyed
Johnson, Jonas b.Pelham, N.H. d.Portland, Me. d.2 D 1837 aet. 55yrs.	Stone destroyed
Lunt, Jane wife Joseph d.12 S 1834 aet. 80yrs.	Stone destroyed
Lunt, Joseph d.15 S 1804 aet. 47yrs., 4mos.	Stone destroyed
Merrill, Joseph d.8 Ap 1823 aet. 65yrs. War of 1812: Portland Rifle Corps.	Stone destroyed
Merrill, Joseph s. Joseph M. & Dorcas Sawyer d.27 S 1835 aet. 2yrs., 11mos., 17dys.	Stone destroyed
Merrill, Nancy d.25 Mr 1824 aet. 23yrs.	Stone destroyed
Moseley, Ann d.24 F 1856 aet. 57yrs.	Stone destroyed
Moseley, James d.9 D 1892 aet. 56yrs., 5mos. Civil War: 2nd Regt. Rhode Island Inf., Co.D	Stone destroyed
Sawyer, Abigail wife John d.10 Mr 1848 aet. 82yrs., 6mos., 27dys.	Stone destroyed
Sawyer, Anthony d.21 Je 1804 aet. 69yrs.	Stone destroyed

EAST DEERING CEMETERY, PORTLAND, MAINE

5

Sawyer, Brackett d.21 Ap 1851 aet. 76yrs.	Stone destroyed
Sawyer, Crispus d.24 Ag 1873 aet. 69yrs., 4mos., 26dys.	Stone destroyed
Sawyer, Dorcas wife Joseph M. d.15 D 1856 aet. 55yrs.	Stone destroyed
Sawyer, Elizabeth W. wife Brackett d.21 S 1864 aet. 82yrs., 21dys.	Stone destroyed
Sawyer, John d.6 D 1842 aet. 82yrs. War of 1812: Hobbs' Regt., Mass.Militia	Stone destroyed
Sawyer, Joseph M. d.1 Je 1876 aet. 79yrs., 10mos. War of 1812: Hobbs' Regt., Mass.Militia	Stone destroyed
Sawyer, Susannah wife Capt. Thomas d.6 F 1805 aet. 40yrs.	Stone destroyed
Sawyer, Tabitha wife william d.6 D 1857 aet. 89yrs., 11mos., 25dys.	Stone destroyed
Sawyer, Thomas, Jr. b.15 D 1785 d.21 Ap 1807	Stone destroyed
Sawyer, William d.14 My 1825 aet. 62yrs. War of 1812: Col. Martin Nichols' Regt., Mass.Militia	Stone destroyed
Small, Warren s. James & Lydia d.1 Mr 1824 aet. 20yrs.	Stone destroyed
Smith, Francis d.4 Je 1840 aet. 49yrs.	Stone destroyed
Wilcox, Agnes wife George d.2 Ap 1864 aet. 41yrs.	Stone destroyed

Ray Street

Earlier we noted a reference point of a pile of stones on the edge of David Gustin's land. By the time the road was approved, it was James Merrill's land. The Proprietor's records disclose Ebenezer, David, and John Gustin receiving sixty acre lots in October 1731. The lot granted to David ran approximately in the same plane as the Ebenezer Hall Junior's lot sold to Henry Knight only to the east. The long dimension of this lot, 160 rods, is from southwest to northeast. The short dimension of sixty rods is southeast to northwest. Ebenezer's lot ran at right angles to David's with 160 rods from southeast to Northwest and John Gustin's lot lay to the east parallel to Ebenezer's. All of these grants stipulate that they are to leave room for a road at the most convenient place for the public and with the least damage to the land owner. This proved to be at the west of David's lot and between the Ebenezer lot and the lot granted to John. There was an area of ledge at the southeast end of Ebenezer's lot so the road turned about 60 degrees north until it connected with the Ebenezer / John lot line.

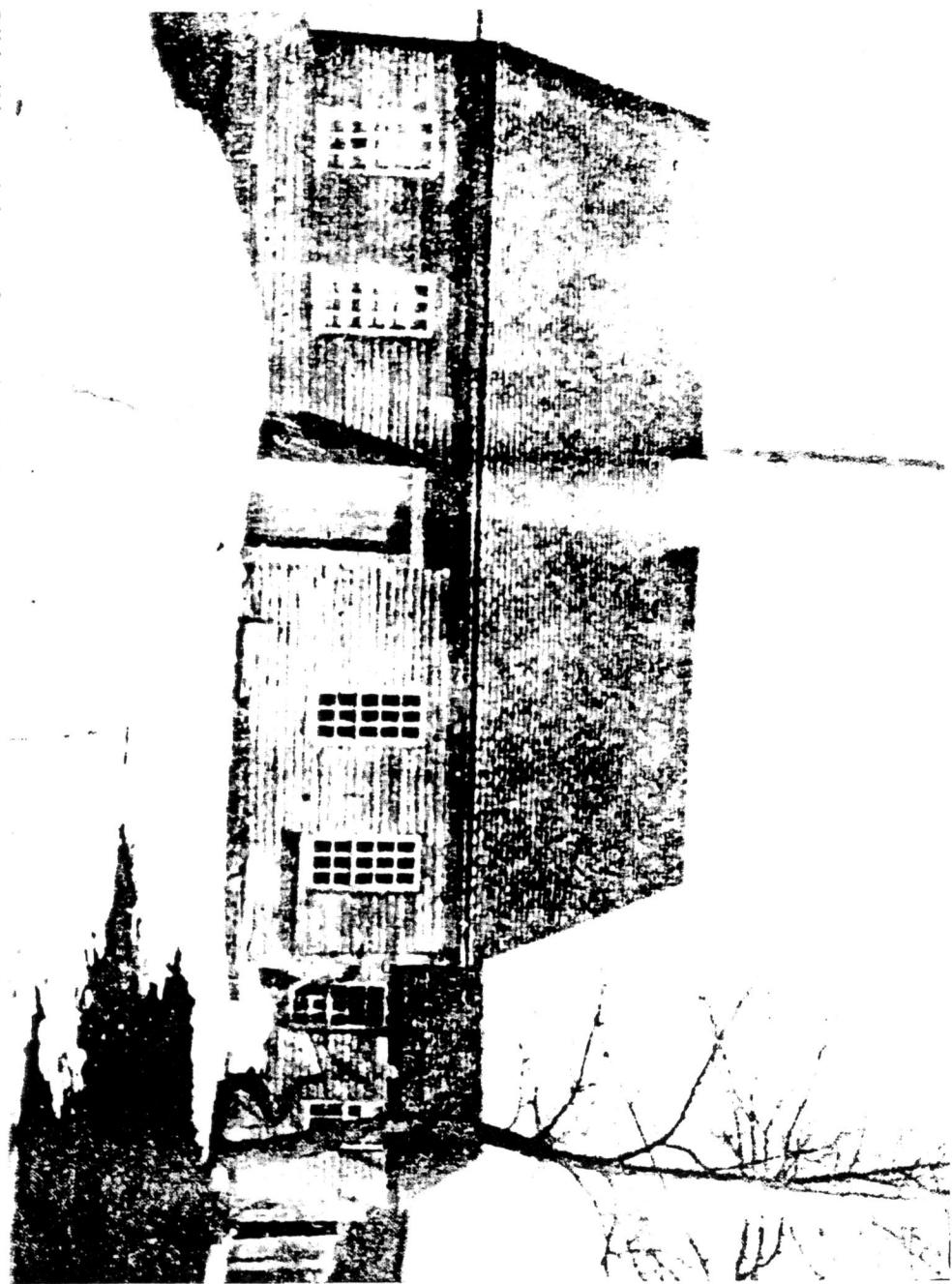
I do not have the deed from David Gustin to James Merrill but I do have the transfer from Merrill to Jonathan Armstrong, Reg. 14/218. It seems to be dated November 13, 1760 but it is not very distinct. There will be one more change of ownership and that to Samuel Ray but I did not have the time to look for it. Merrill seems to have built a house at the first turn, which survived until 1897 when it burned. In 1784 there were Merrills interested in the Shaker movement and they gathered at this house so Ray's ownership is after that. At any rate the road then became known as the Ray Road.

Reg. 23/147 Ebenezer Gustin to George Huston, a weaver, gives Huston title to Ebenezer Gustin's sixty acre lot. Gustin is described as a shipwright and the actual acreage is 59½, the date is January 27, 1741. He mentions that the 59½ acre is part of his sixty and ten acre lots.



Assessors Photo

Rufus Huston house Falls Road/Allen Avenue near Ray Street



Gibbs/Shattuck house from clipping in L. B. Chapman files. Faced winter solstice on future Ray Street
circa mid 1700s

Time has not permitted the tracing of numerous transactions in this area but in L. B. Chapman's notes I found a copy of an article in the News & Globe-Star dated December 10, 1914. With it was a picture of the Gibbs (Shattuck) house. Checking a city map of about 1915, I note it diagramed in its winter solstice position (facing the sun) on Ray Street at about the future Maine Avenue intersection.

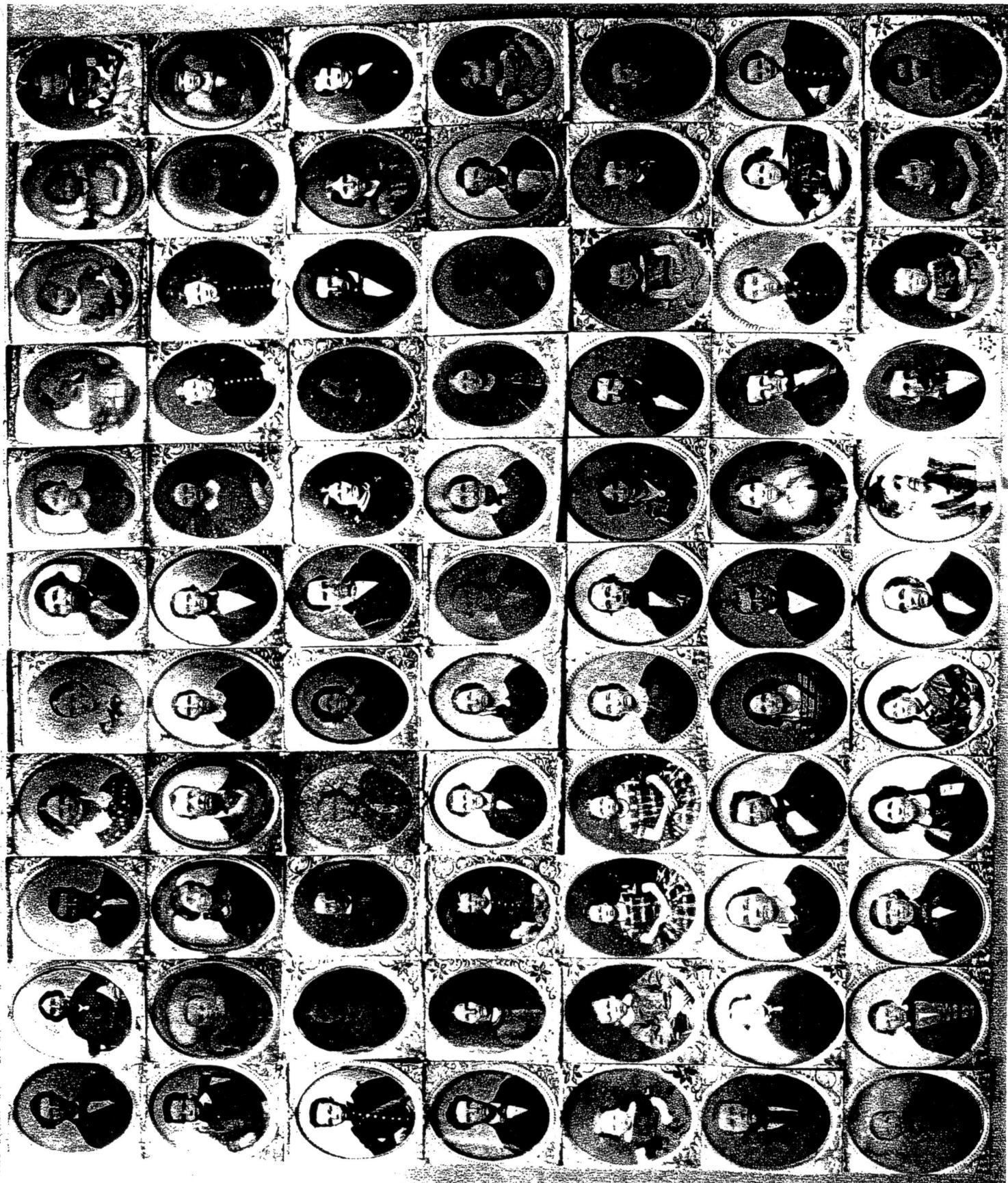
From William Willis' history we find that John Barbour had been one of the soldiers in the fort who came in to Falmouth. His father, John Barbour, came to Falmouth in 1718, with his daughter, the widow Gibbs and children, Andrew Gibbs age 5 and Mary Gibbs age 10. I have a note taken from the News & Globe-Star article that Andrew Gibbs bought some of the John Gustin lot on September 27, 1736, and acquired two additional parcels to the northwest the following year, possibly Proprietors grants. From the article it appears Jacob P. Shattuck bought the Gibbs house in 1861 but allowing the seller and wife to live in part of the house the remainder of their lives.

Now let's turn the corner to the left on the Falls Road and shortly we'll encounter buildings owned by Rufus Huston. He died in 1833 judging from Reg. 133/404, 405 Estate of Rufus Huston dated September 9, 1833. Reg. 134/465 list the heirs and the deceased father John Huston,, who was the previous owner apparently. On September 18, 1833, Alexander Huston, Administrator, sold this property to Amos Abbott, Reg. 134/475. In giving the bounds, Henry & Amos Wilson are given as owning land to the northeast, which would be the northwesterly property on the Ray Road.

On October 9, 1819, Samuel Knight sold six acres to Rufus Huston. It provided an outlet for Huston directly onto the Meadow Road. This is Reg. 100/356.

I have listed in these pages the names of the property owners living here in the 18th century. It is not practical to recount their numerous transactions. It appears the Merrills retained their house for some years though selling the land.

The Hustons apparently had another large farm northwest of the Falls Road and a little east of the Inn built by Shaw. In August 1826 Thompson Huston is gathering quit claim deeds from other heirs of Paul Huston and that farm is referred to as the homestead farm.



Mr. Alonso Knicht Falmouth, Me	not marked	Mr. Edward D. Crocker Portland, Me	Mrs. Ellen Crocker Portland, Me	not marked	Mr. Horace F. Milliken Westbrook, Me	Mrs. Rebecca F. Milliken Westbrook, Me	Mrs. Sophia E. Milliken Westbrook, Me	Mrs. Alada Milliken Westbrook, Me	Mrs. Sarah Milliken Westbrook, Me	Samuel G. Milliken Westbrook, Me		
1. Mr. Lester Dole Brunswick, Me	2.	Mr. George V. Crocker Westbrook, Me	Mrs. May C. Crocker Westbrook, Me	3. Mr. George M. Crocker Westbrook, Me	4. Mrs. May C. Crocker Westbrook, Me	5. Mrs. May C. Crocker Westbrook, Me	6. Mr. Josiah Cobb Falmouth, Me	7. not marked	8. Mr. Josiah D. Cobb Falmouth, Me	9. Mr. Amasa M. Cobb Falmouth, Me	10. Mr. Bridge B. Cobb Falmouth, Me	11. Mr. Elmer Brother Westbrook, Me
12. Mr. William Dole Brunswick, Me	13.	Mr. James Sawyer Westbrook, Me	14. Mr. James Sawyer Portland, Me	15. Lieut. Fred A. Sawyer Portland, Me	16. A Mr. James Sawyer wife of James Sawyer Portland, Me	17. Miss Lucy Marie Sawyer Portland, Me	18. Mrs. Margaret J. James Greenhalgh Portland, Me	19. Mrs. Florentine Greenhalgh Portland, Me	20. Mrs. Florence Walter Portland, Me	21. Mr. Capt. Joseph H. Walter Westbrook, Me	22.	
Probably Abba Sawyer		Monmouth, Me	11/1/44 - 11/30/1931 married 2nd child was Ethel A. Mculloch married Tom A. Carson Ethel Carson provided much information about 1850s 2nd husband John L. Sawyer	11/1/44 - 11/30/1931 married 2nd child was Ethel A. Mculloch married Tom A. Carson Ethel Carson provided much information about 1850s 2nd husband John L. Sawyer	11/1/44 - 11/30/1931 married 2nd child was Ethel A. Mculloch married Tom A. Carson Ethel Carson provided much information about 1850s 2nd husband John L. Sawyer	11/1/44 - 11/30/1931 married 2nd child was Ethel A. Mculloch married Tom A. Carson Ethel Carson provided much information about 1850s 2nd husband John L. Sawyer	11/1/44 - 11/30/1931 married 2nd child was Ethel A. Mculloch married Tom A. Carson Ethel Carson provided much information about 1850s 2nd husband John L. Sawyer	11/1/44 - 11/30/1931 married 2nd child was Ethel A. Mculloch married Tom A. Carson Ethel Carson provided much information about 1850s 2nd husband John L. Sawyer	11/1/44 - 11/30/1931 married 2nd child was Ethel A. Mculloch married Tom A. Carson Ethel Carson provided much information about 1850s 2nd husband John L. Sawyer	11/1/44 - 11/30/1931 married 2nd child was Ethel A. Mculloch married Tom A. Carson Ethel Carson provided much information about 1850s 2nd husband John L. Sawyer	11/1/44 - 11/30/1931 married 2nd child was Ethel A. Mculloch married Tom A. Carson Ethel Carson provided much information about 1850s 2nd husband John L. Sawyer	
23. Mr. Daniel D. Bradbury Chicopee, Mass	24. A Mrs. Caroline Sawyer Westbrook, Me	25. Mr. Elgin L. Sawyer Westbrook, Me	26. A Mr. Leander L. Sawyer Westbrook, Me	27. Mrs. Sophia Sawyer Westbrook, Me	28. Not marked	29. Mrs. Louisa Sawyer Westbrook, Me	30. Mrs. Angelia Grand Falmouth	31. Mrs. Rufus Brand Falmouth, Me	32. Mrs. Rufus Brand Falmouth, Me	33. Not marked	34.	
18/20 - 19/32 married Jackson	18/20 - 18/91	18/20 - 18/91	18/20 - 18/91	18/20 - 18/91	18/20 - 18/91	18/20 - 18/91	18/20 - 18/91	18/20 - 18/91	18/20 - 18/91	18/20 - 18/91	35.	
36. Mrs. Eliza Sawyer Westbrook, Me	37. Mrs. Adelinda Sawyer Westbrook, Me	38. Mrs. Eliza E. Sawyer Westbrook, Me	39. A Mrs. Eliza E. Sawyer Westbrook, Me	40. Mrs. Eliza E. Sawyer Westbrook, Me	41. Mrs. Eliza E. Sawyer Westbrook, Me	42. Mrs. Eliza E. Sawyer Westbrook, Me	43. Mrs. Rufus A. Abbott Portland, Me	44. Mrs. Rufus A. Abbott Portland, Me	45. Mrs. Rufus A. Abbott Portland, Me	46.		
18/54 - 19/87 married Jackson	18/54 - 18/91	18/54 - 18/91	18/54 - 18/91	18/54 - 18/91	18/54 - 18/91	18/54 - 18/91	18/54 - 18/91	18/54 - 18/91	18/54 - 18/91	47.		
47. Not marked	48. Mr. George H. Sawyer Westbrook, Me	49. Cyrus B. Abbott Westbrook, Me	50. Mrs. Rebecca Abbott Westbrook, Me	51. Mrs. Rebecca Abbott Westbrook, Me	52. Mrs. Rebecca Abbott Westbrook, Me	53. Mrs. Rebecca Abbott Westbrook, Me	54. Mrs. Rufus A. Abbott Portland, Me	55. Mrs. Rufus A. Abbott Portland, Me	56. Mrs. Rufus A. Abbott Portland, Me	57.		
18/46 - 19/31 married Bailey	18/46 - 19/30 married Bailey	18/46 - 19/35 died off 18/91	18/46 - 19/35 died off 18/91	18/46 - 19/35 died off 18/91	18/46 - 19/35 died off 18/91	18/46 - 19/35 died off 18/91	18/46 - 19/35 died off 18/91	18/46 - 19/35 died off 18/91	18/46 - 19/35 died off 18/91	58.		
58. Mr. William Purvis Gray, Me	59. Mr. Adam Purvis Gray, Me	60. Mrs. Rebecca Purvis Gray, Me	61. Mrs. Hannah Purvis Westbrook, Me	62. Not marked	63. Amos Abbott, Jr. Westbrook, Me	64. Minnie Thurlow Westbrook, Me	65. Minnie Thurlow Westbrook, Me	66. Minnie Thurlow Westbrook, Me	67. Minnie Thurlow Westbrook, Me	68.		
59. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	60. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	61. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	62. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	63. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	64. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	65. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	66. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	67. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	68. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	69.		
69. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	70. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	71. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	72. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	73. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	74. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	75. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	76. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	77. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	78. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	79.		
70. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	71. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	72. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	73. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	74. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	75. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	76. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	77. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	78. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	79. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	80.		
80. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	81. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	82. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	83. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	84. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	85. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	86. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	87. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	88. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	89. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	90.		
81. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	82. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	83. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	84. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	85. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	86. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	87. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	88. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	89. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	90. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	91.		
91. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	92. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	93. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	94. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	95. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	96. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	97. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	98. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	99. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	100. Mrs. John Purvis Gray, Me	101.		

Nineteenth Century

The first important occurrence for North Deering in the nineteenth century was the laying out of the Meadow Road. It also led to the abandonment of the lower portion of the town road by connecting to the Meadow Road along the top of the Noyes lot.

Probably one of the first houses built was the Hopkins house approximately opposite what we call Byfield Road. I am curious about the origins of the house at the end of that street, but did not have time to trace it.

The construction of the Asa and Sarah Sawyer house on the northeast side of the Meadow Road by her father certainly qualifies as one of the first. It was built in 1801.

The Horace Milliken house on the corner of Ray Street might be one of the next in this neighborhood. According to his obituary, Horace Milliken was born in Scarborough June 25, 1821 and moved to Westbrook, as this area was called, April 26, 1838. Where he established residence I do not know, but his interest lay with my grandmother's sister, Fanny, whom he married.

Milliken bought four acres from Amasa Sawyer on June 3, 1845, Reg. 451/317. (This was part of the land Amasa bought from Lewis B. Sawyer on September 1, 1737, Reg. 190/189). Probably Horace Milliken built his house and barn soon thereafter.

The George Sawyer house was built in 1848 and included a barn which faced southeast. George Jackson, grandson of George Sawyer, provided this information. 1841 appears to be the year in which James, Simeon, and George acquired much of the land, the consideration in each case being three hundred dollars. On August 13, 1841, James received from the other two 24 acres of the meadow and 10 acres, which at a later date became my father's, Reg. 196/133. On the same date, George received from James and Simeon land on the southwesterly



Pleasant afternoon at the George Sawyer house. Two sisters at top, Minerva Abbott Thurlow at left & Elizabeth Abbott Sawyer right (her house). Minerva's daughter, Minnie Thurlow Cobb, wife of Hugh Cobb at Mrs. Sawyer's left. My grandmother, Sophia K. Sawyer between Abbott sisters with shoes showing. Mrs. Elizabeth A. Milliken, widow of Horace at bottom right. One daughter, Bertha, married to Nathan Budd at far left. Another daughter, Adelaide, directly behind Mrs. Milliken married to Howard Knight far right. Their daughters at front, Madeline & Ruth. Other ladies unidentified.



1848 George & Elizabeth Sawyer house at left / Old Homestead in background



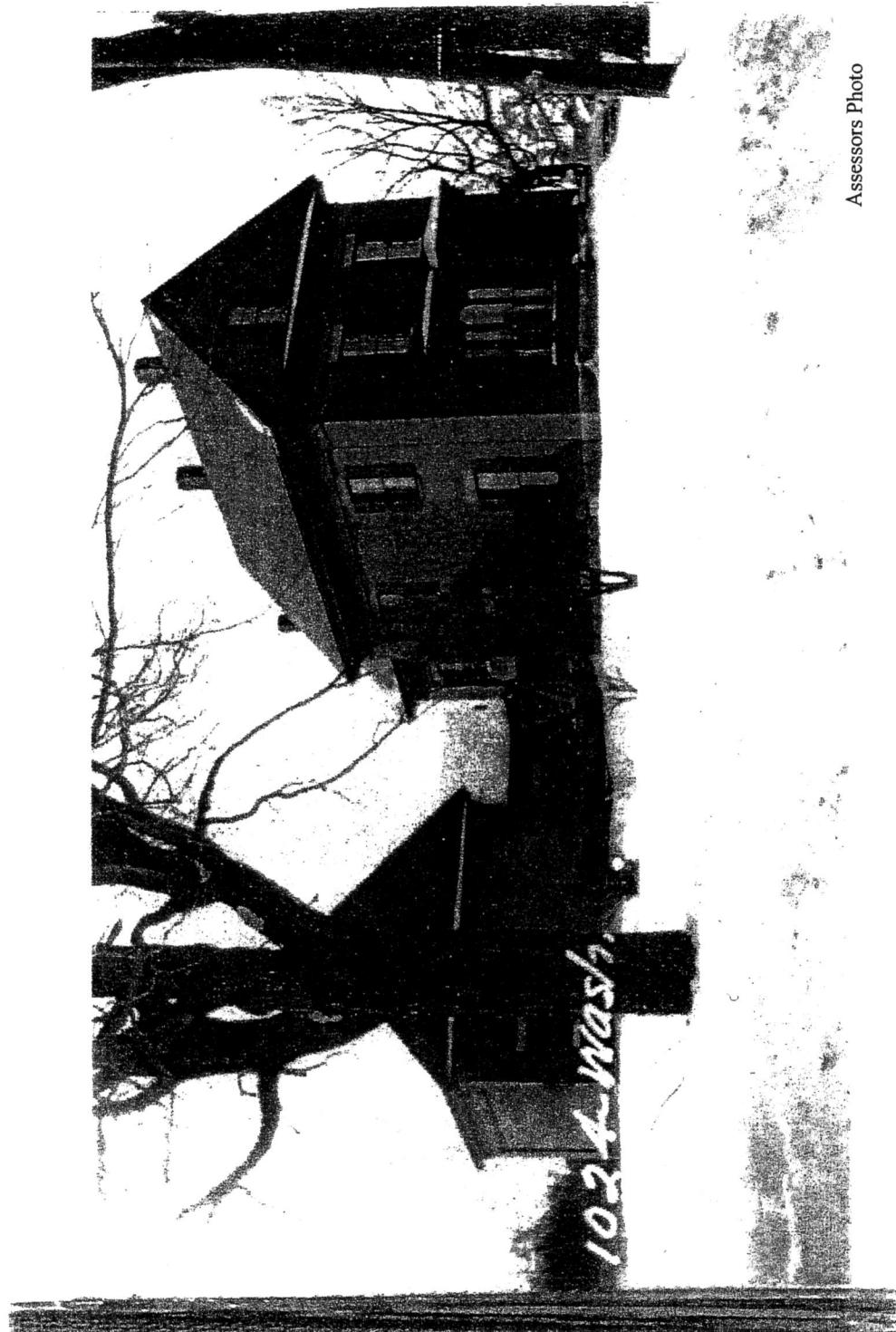
Sunday afternoon, Eugene and Ida Sawyer

side of the road from the meadow bridge to other land owned by their mother. That boundary would be about 150 feet southeast of the present Harvard Street, Reg. 223/350, and the northwest border of the Old Place. The Old Place was willed to Sarah by her father, Samuel Knight, and she and Asa sold it to George K. Cobb and Joseph W. Thomson of Boston for \$1,100, on May 16, 1850. Apparently the lawyer for the purchaser had all of their children quit-claim on December 28, 1861. This provides a list of the surviving children and their spouses. These deeds are Reg. 225/418 & Reg. 315/201.

On August 19, 1841 Simeon received the basic acreage which did not include the old Homestead. This was on the easterly side of the road, 20 or 25 acres. Apparently Samuel Knight's will specified the land available and the three brothers made their choices. In essence the deeds acted as quit-claim deeds.

On December 16, 1848, Simeon received the homestead lot and buildings from his parents, Asa and Sarah Sawyer and gave a lifetime lease to them. In that agreement Simeon obtained the right to add an ell to the house and build a barn. Two of George Jackson's daughters, Elizabeth Horne and Hazel Barbour, and the surviving son, Edward Jackson assisted me with information for which I am very grateful. Mention of the barn reminds me of an Almena diary entry of 1911 noting that Mr. Robinson was taking down his old barn. Hazel let me take notes from these diaries and in a page or two of questions Betty, working with her father, obtained the answers. In this case, the original barn was 'fairly good sized" and located to the southeast of the old homestead. Ned's contribution was to let me copy the collection of tintypes, ambrotypes, and possibly daguerreotypes found by Charles Jackson, his grandfather, when apprenticing at the Lamson studio.

The next event which led to numerous changes was the death of Lewis B. Sawyer January 24, 1858. Since he died without a will, Probate Court appointed a committee to appraise the property and lay out lots to the heirs. Each heir received



Assessors Photo

Cyrus and Minerva Thurlow house purchased 1864 from Cyrus and Amos Abbott Jr., who bought lot in 1859 before construction

a choice lot on the Meadow Road and a woodlot at the rear of the premises. Alonzo Sawyer, Lewis' son by his second wife, Comfort, received the most southeasterly lot on the road. On May 13, 1859, he sold it to Cyrus B. Abbott and Amos Abbott, Jr. for sixty dollars, Reg. 292/399. On April 8, 1864, they sold it with brick buildings to Cyrus Thurlow for thirty-eight hundred dollars, Reg. 326/477.

With regard to Alonzo W. Sawyer, there is another of the same name and initial. Both served in the 17th Maine. The other one is buried in Evergreen Cemetery. Ours was missing in action at the Battle of the Wilderness where the musketry was so intense it set the woods on fire. If a wounded man could not crawl out, he died in the fire. The military records show our Alonzo as illiterate but there are three deeds which belie this, the one listed above, Reg. 302/477, and Reg. 302/225. He left a widow, Martha and a son, Lewis B.

Severely wounded in that battle was Frederick Sawyer, son of James mentioned previously. James was "lost" as my father put it, in the California gold rush. A gravestone in his memory carries a date of 1852. After Frederick was mustered out due to injuries, he settled in San Francisco. He lost everything in the 1906 earthquake and fire, according to Mrs. Carians.

Well, back to the Estate of Lewis B. Sawyer we find Simeon appointed Administrator so we have some interesting papers. There were several court required duties for which allowances were made such as one day with appraisers, \$1.00, obtaining a license to sell some real estate to pay bills, \$1.60, and \$1.60 to assist widow in listing personal estate. Then \$13.00 for coffin and \$3.75 for Joel Sawyer to attend funeral.

Dr. Solomon Allen submitted a bill for a balance but in so doing listed a variety of ailments and the charges made such as, house call \$.75, extracting a tooth \$1.25, and obstetrics \$4.00.

In about the same times, the 1830s and 1840s, Simeon, a carpenter, charged four shillings an hour (which his record books define as \$1.31 per day) and sometimes \$1.25 per day, later \$1.50 per day. In 1855 a blacksmith charged Asa for shoeing a horse or two, .87, .50, .13, 1.25, and .50.

Some mid 1830 prices are as follows: candles .15, coffee .15, molasses .40, rum .40, bacon 1.04, tobacco .08, flour 5.50, bacon 1.30, cheese .32, 7w pork .83, 1pk beans .50, 15w fish .45, and a gal. of molasses appears every 8 weeks as does a gal. of rum. In 1857 Asa paid .60 for 7½ lbs. beef, .50 for 5½ lbs. sugar, and .08 for plug of tobacco.

Another lot of 2 acres & 40 square rods in which we will be interested, was laid out to Sophia K. Sawyer on the easterly side of the Meadow Road, northwest of a similar lot for her sister, Fanny Milliken, that lot being adjacent to their four acres and house. In August 1866, Sophia sold her lot to Jefferson Merrow, Reg. 344/497, who apparently built the mansard roofed house at that location. Sophia's half sisters acquired the two lots between Alonzo's lot and the lane.

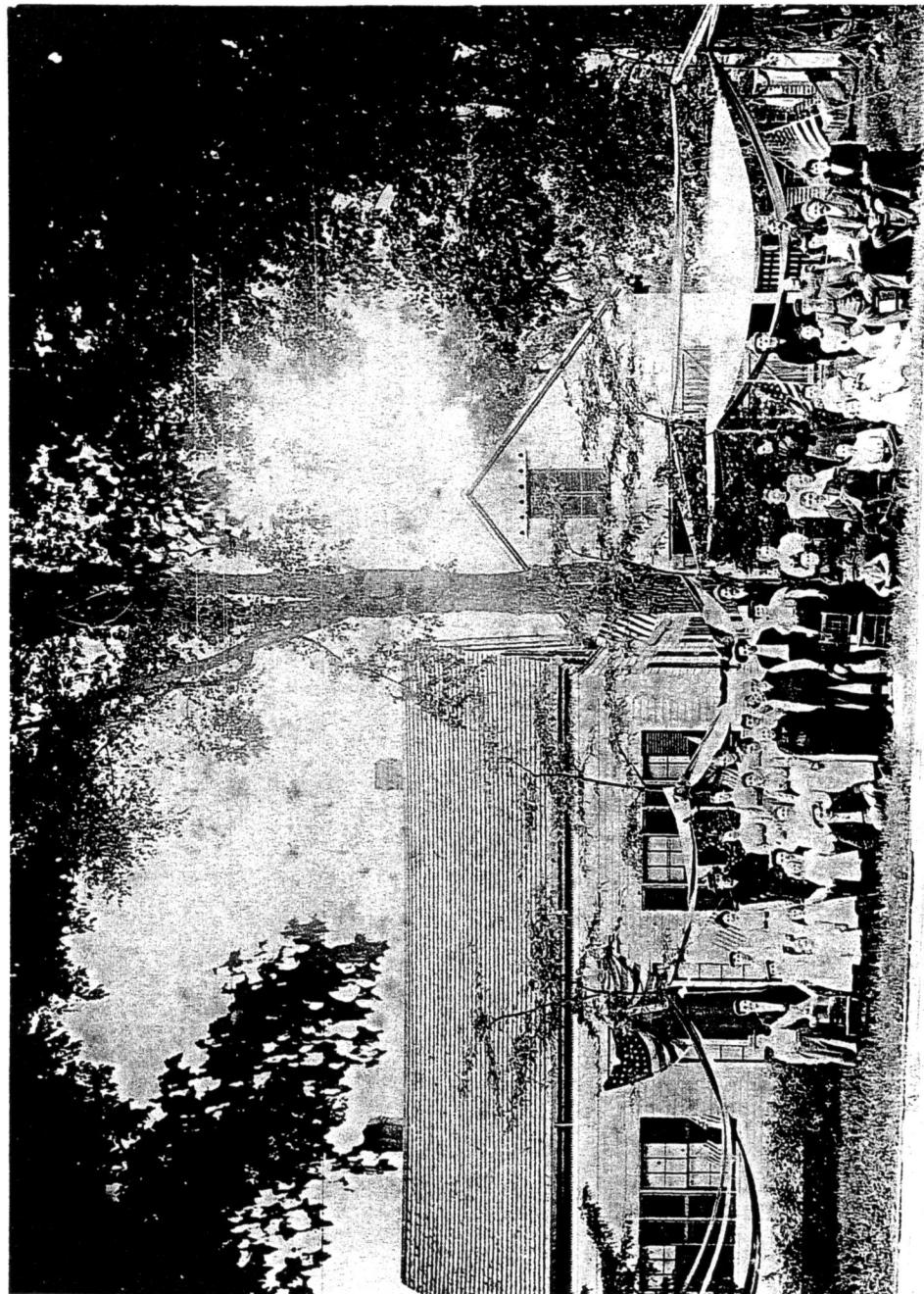
I do not have the dates when the houses at 1118 and 1119 Washington Avenue were built but my grandfather, Simeon, deeded 1119 to Angelia, Leander's wife on August 7, 1865. Simeon built that house. After a divorce, Angelia (Mrs. Charles DeLong) sold the property to John Adams, March 20, 1880, Reg. 464/462. I think both 1118 and 1119 were built about Civil War time.

Up to 1871 when this area became Deering, there doesn't appear to be much further building. By 1890, diaries of my grandmother and others show a lively village-like atmosphere.

Simeon, my grandfather, had died in 1886. Incidentally, my wife Ida Libby and I were married in 1940, 100 years after the marriage of my grandparents. A few days before their marriage, Simeon bought a few items of furniture, including



Pre 1895 Millikens gathering at Graves Hill probably. Millikens top center left of lady in white. Sophia Sawyer seated right of that lady. The absence of my father and Ida indicates they had not moved back as yet.



Horace Milliken birthday June 26, probably 1900



Barbour homestead on Falls Road from which came Rebecca, wife of Benjamin
Assessors Photo

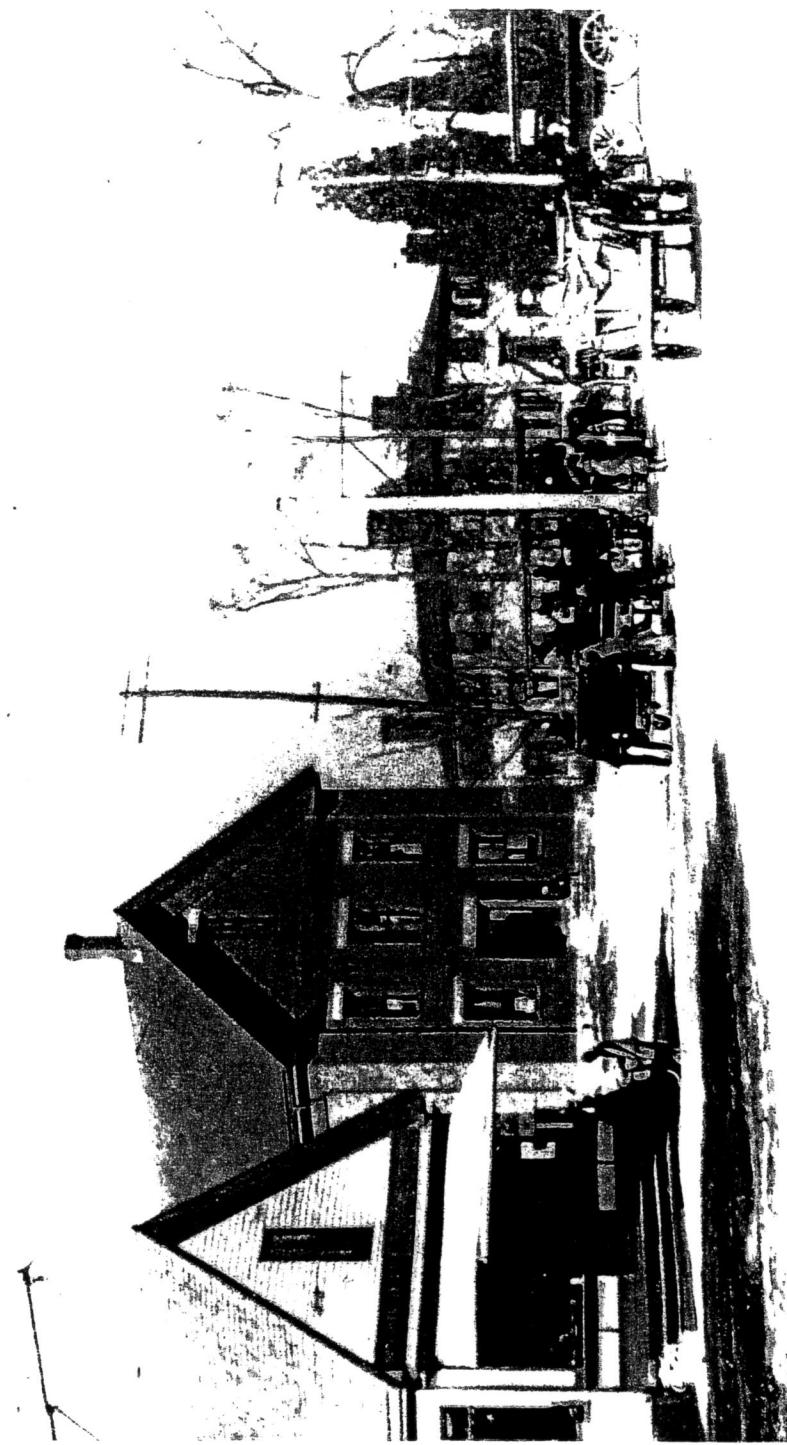


The Old Homestead
1801 Asa & Sarah Sawyer / Simeon & Sophia Sawyer

30 pounds of feathers. In case you wonder the size of that item, a picture appeared in National Geographic or maybe Early American Life a few years ago showing a man in, I think Denmark, carrying two enormous suitcase shaped bundles and that was 30 pounds of feathers.

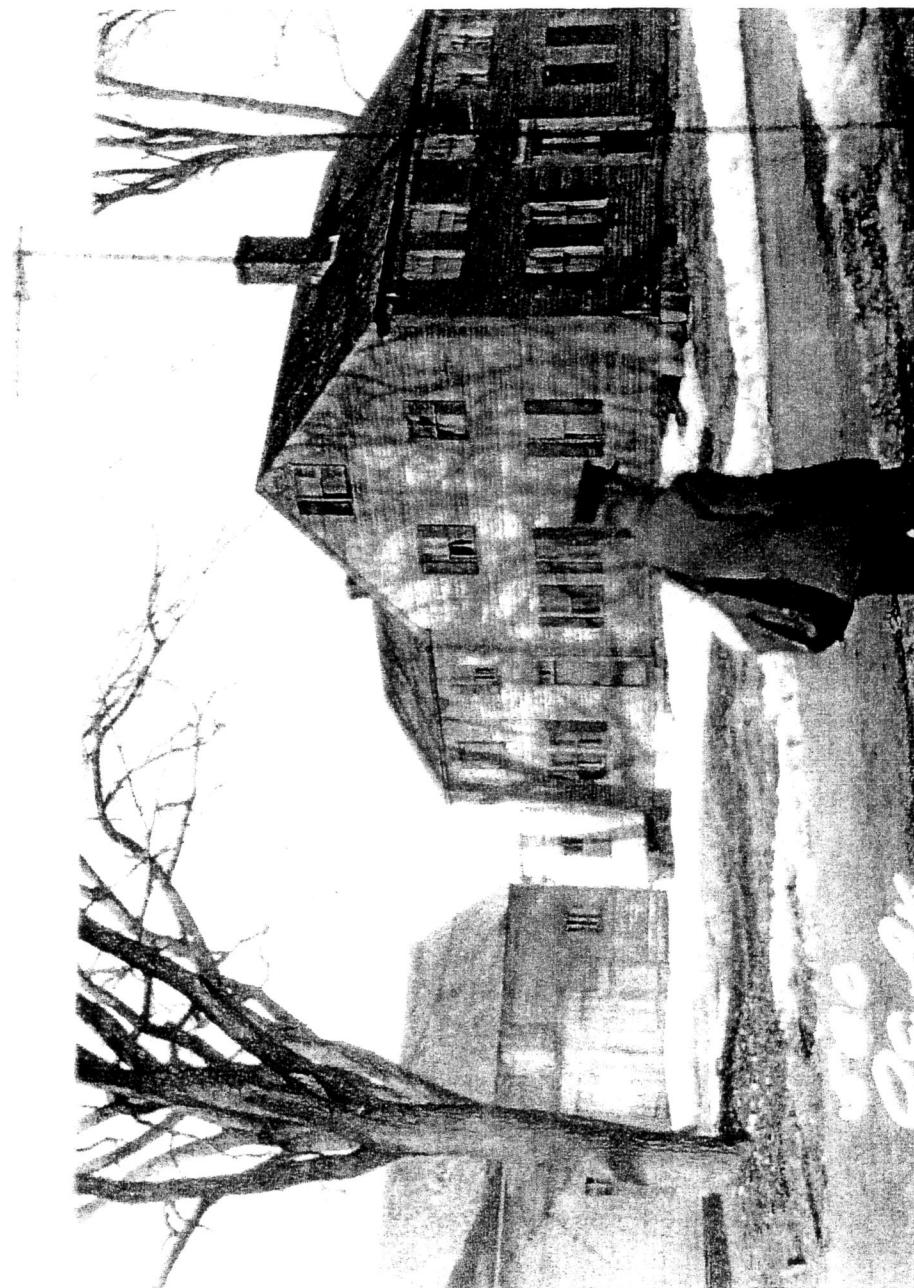
The people like my father who had jobs in Portland had various means of getting back and forth. The Portland and Rochester Railroad had a station at the foot of Preble Street. The track went out west of Forest Avenue (formerly Green Street) crossed near Trinity Church and going behind the Odd Fellows block to switch to the Maine Central tracks. It left that line at Morrills Corner to go to Westbrook and beyond. People in North Deering had paths through the woods to that line. The horsecar line on Stevens and Pleasant Avenues when electrified, was extended to Allens Corner. Ocean Avenue had electric cars at about that time. So there was a choice of walks except in big snowstorms when both the electric and steam were blocked and then one walked the whole distance. Beginning in 1897 plans were made to put the electrics over Main Street (Washington Avenue). Ledges were blasted and poles erected. In early August 1898, the first cars began service. The following was taken from my father's and his mother's diaries.

On January 31, 1898 there was a big snow storm with all steam and electrics blocked. February 1st both diaries mention storm, five foot drift in front of my father's house. February 2nd my grandmother states, cold fair lovely nonesuch, which is a word seldom used now but the dictionary will explain it best. February 10th, my grandmother Sophia states the snowplow with four horses broke off the sides of the street so the teams could pass. This I suspect was the snowroller which in the 1920s still existed, stored in a barn on upper Ray Street. My father's entry for February 15th includes "Battleship Maine blew up in Havana at 9:30 p.m."



Courtesy of Sullivan Studio

Allens Corner circa 1900 showing brick store with Inn in background



Assessor's Photo

Lunt house at Northeast corner of Lunts Corner



Flag Day at Cummings School circa 1924. Stephen Morse house in background used by East Deering Club.
Site of old Peter Noyes house

Sophia apparently is an accomplished seamstress and it is more than a social visit when she stays at Morrills corner for several days with Allada and Ben Meader, one of Horace Milliken's daughters. February 23rd, third day of rain, water on meadow. 24th Fair Sophia invited to Thompsons for dinner. They sent team for her. Allada went. Heavy crust for a week, per EWS. Will hold a horse, everybody out sliding over the fields.

Ida and EWS frequently invited to various neighbors to play whist. At home they play duets, cornet and piano. 8th In evening they went to concert, Wagner's Tannhauser, tickets 1.50 to 3.50. He refers to it as opera so vocalists sang. A fine orchestra. 16th EWS 43. 17th He took some oranges to his mother.

April 7, 1898 Sophia's diary "Eugene up last night bought me a present of a nice cane all anointed with silver with my initials. He is so good to me." 10th Easter Sunday Fair lovely. I went to church had a nice sermon. The church looked very nice so many flowers. And EWS entry—PM Played for Allens corner church. Chas. Jackson and Miss Stone sang solos. Ida went with me. Regarding the cane, George Jackson, Sr. said she fell walking down through the woods and always used a cane after that.

21st War declared between United States and Spain. Men are hauling electric poles. 27th EWS Delano hauled out my lumber for piazza. And so with street lights, trolley cars, and Sebago water, North Deering came of age. There are various mysteries but I'll leave those for others.

The diaries of Almena Sawyer (Ella Sawyer Jackson's older sister), are very informative. She faithfully noted the weather every day and as they occurred, births, deaths, and marriages. Numerous events are mentioned but several are on the lighter side such as February 28, 1887, mother bought 17 pounds of soap from Mrs. Moulton; May 1, 1891, Prince ran away and broke up the carriage tonight; June 17, 1892, The flag was raised in the schoolhouse yard tonight; May 14, 1893,

Charlie and Frank have been trying to catch Mr. Smith's pig tonight but he ran into the woods. Also, August 31, 1895 Will Cobb sold his house today to Eugene Sawyer. April 28, 1909 there was a reception for the pastor and his wife and Miss Randall (my mother to be) up to the church this evening.

In 1878, Comfort Sawyer (Lewis' second wife) apparently died. She doesn't appear to be buried in the graveyard. I suspect she may be buried with the other Langs of Diamond land. Her death permitted Horace Milliken to purchase some of the old property in which he, through his first wife Fanny, had an interest. Later Amos Abbott, Jr. obtained title, probably due to the death of Nancy Ellie Sawyer Abbott, his wife. Almena's diary of April 17, 1891 states that Uncle Amos moved down on his farm today.

So, in 1898 the area was quite modern. Those people obviously appreciated the efforts of previous generations. Like nonesuch words change meanings or go out of usage. EWS An interesting item in my father's diary is that the shop crew took up a collection to buy flowers for the Typewriter.

Her mother had died.

Mysteries

Where did Angelia settle after she married Charles DeLong, about 1880? George Jackson emphasized there were 4 sons. I can find only 3.

Lucy Sawyer married Nathaniel Bradbury. They had three sons. He died 8/15/48. Later, she married William Foss, a widower. Foss' first wife was buried in Tory Hill cemetery, and probably the Fosses later. The first son of the Bradburys was a well known artist, Gibeon Elden Bradbury. He did many well known landscape paintings which are hung in several York County public buildings.

Abba Sawyer married Solomon Foster. In the Sagadahok registry, he is shown as selling land. The town of Monmouth has no records, but tin types show her (if it is the same person) as Mrs. Abba Wickwire. In my father's last months, a Mr. Wickwire called on him. Mr Jackson recalls a young Miss Wickwire.

Comfort Lang Sawyer, widow of Lewis B. Sawyer, died about September 1878. I doubt if she is buried in our graveyard. Could be with the Lang Family on Diamond Island (formerly called Hog Island.)

Lewis B. Sawyer, Alonzo's son by Martha Bennett Sawyer. See 453/223. Albert Bennett is guardian.

Hollis E. Rand, son of Rufus E. Rand and Angelina Rand. Rufus is guardian. See 453/223. According to L.B. Chapman, Rufus lived in NY for a bit.

Samuel K. Bailey, see 108/64, 225/69, 229/153. Why Samuel Knight willed land to Bailey is a question.

Old house at 153-155 Allen Ave. I think it is the James Barbour house. In the 19th century, the occupants were Sumner and Mary Winslow and earlier, Benjamin Winslow. Must find links to verify it as James' house.

It would probably be an easy task to determine the original owner of the Seth Sweetsir house at about 920 Washington Ave., next to Fallbrook.